

Daily Echo

BRADBURY'S MEN SUFFER AWAY-DAY THRASHING

Sheffield Wednesday v Cherries match report – page 15

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PREMIERSHIP

EX-SAINTS STAR STEVE MORAN ON THE INSPIRATIONAL 12-YEAR-OLD BEHIND HIS 1,400-MILE BIKE MARATHON - p4-5



TEST OF STRENGTH: Rickie Lambert battles for the ball with Barnsley's Scott Wiseman.

Lallana's double **KOs Barnsley as** Saints march on

SAINTS 2 BARNSLEY 0

ADAM Lallana fired Saints closer to the Premier League with both goals in a vitally important 2-0 win against Barnsley.

The Saints playmaker scored a goal in each half as the Championship leaders maintained their momentum.

And Nigel Adkins' men received a further boost thanks to Doncaster's 1-1 draw at second-placed West Ham.



TERRY PAINE

Saints legend's exclusive column. See page 7

ALEX DANSON



GB hockey star's exclusive column.

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HORSE RACING



Two-page Cheltenham Festival preview.

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PLUS:

EIGHT pages of non-league football. See pages

PENER: Adam Lallana cele-

brates making it 1-0 with



SAINTS v BARNSLEY MATCH REPORT AND REACTION – SEE PAGES 2-3

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pay back
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SAINTS 2 BARNSLEY 0: ADKINS' MEN

LALLANA'S WIN KEPS SAINTS

ADAM Lallana fired Saints closer to the Premier League with both goals in a vitally important 2-0 win against Barnsley.

The Saints playmaker scored a goal in each half as the Championship leaders maintained their momentum despite a below-par start to their second match in five days at St Mary's.

Lallana reacted quickly to ensure Saints led at the break.

But the home side were far from their best during the first half and could easily have been behind long before Lallana broke the deadlock in the 36th minute.

Lallana's low drive from Rickie Lambert's knockdown beat Barnsley goalkeeper nine minutes before half time.

But Barnsley had done well against a nervous-looking Saints side for long periods of the opening period.

Barnsley are now without a win in five, since beating Pompey in mid February, but they have achieved some

Simon Walter

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notable scalps on the road with Leicester, Leeds and Reading among their conquests. They must have believed

They must have believed they could add Saints to that list following their bright start. Indeed Barnsley defender

Indeed, Barnsley defender Stephen Foster should have done much better than miss the target with his free header midway through the first half.

midway through the first half. Had that gone in, it could have been a very different result.

But Saints have the knack of winning when below their best and they created several chances in a much-improved second half.

Driving forward from midfield, Morgan Schneiderlin's long-range, right-footed shot troubled Luke Steele.

Tadanari Lee continued to chase lost causes during the second half. And it was his run

and pass that set up Lallana for Saints' second in the 54th minute.

minute.

The Japanese striker's positivity and hunger saw him win the ball before carrying it along the goal-line and picking out Lallana with an angled cut back.

Barnsley made a double substitution shortly after Saints' second. Paul Digby and Danny Rose came on for Stephen Dawson and David Cotterill respectively.

respectively.

Rickie Lambert struck the wall with a direct free-kick shortly before he was replaced by Jack Cork on the hour, not injured but rested after three big games in the last week.

Cork joined Hammond and Schneiderlin in the centre of midfield and for the most part they retained possession

impressively to frustrate the visitors.

With a hat-trick in the offing, Lallana's tame shot was saved by Steele and Danny Fox's cross nearly created an opportunity for Lee, who was then replaced by David Connolly.

Guly, having been switched to a striker's role following the substitutions, nearly won a penalty following a fluid step

over.

The Brazilian impressed in the second half.

Foster was booked – the first caution of the afternoon – for a professional foul on Guly as

Saints countered.

But Kelvin Davis was grateful for the intervention of a post with 20 minutes remaining, having been beaten by a head-

er following a free kick on the

edge of the area Barnsley believed they should have had a penalty but so too did Saints, when Lallana appeared to be brought down

by James McEveley.
Lallana was furious not to be



SAINTS made only one from the side that drew 1-1 at home to Ipswich in midweek, with Dan Fox, having recovered from a groin injury, coming in for Dan Harding at left-back. Richard Chaplow was left out

TEAM NEWS

of the 16-man squad altogether, but Nigel Adkins still named another very strong Saints bench.

Barnsley were without man-

ager Keith Hill, who stayed in Yorkshire due to a virus. In his absence David Flitcroft, younger brother of former Manchester City midfielder Garry, was in charge of the visitors.

Saints Spotlight

MOVE STEP CLOSER TO THE PREMIERSHIP

DOUBLE ON COURSE





ABOVE: Tadanari Lee and Jay McEveley battle for the ball.

LEFT: Morgan Schneiderlin beats Jacob Butterfield and Jay McEveley to the ball.



FAN CLUB: Saints fans hold up signs for Tadanari Lee.

awarded a spot kick and was making his feelings known

Lallana had another opportu-

nity for a hat-trick goal only to be denied by a defender's determined challenge.

And with the points surely in



replaced by Billy Sharp.
Then came the afternoon's champagne moment. When Foster denied Connolly, the ball broke to Hooiveld, who smashed a 40-yarder that Steele just managed to block.

The crowd favourite's stock among the Saints faithful would have risen to cult status had he scored.

It was a spectacular effort from the Dutchman but there were worries over Connolly's knee following Foster's challenge.

and Schneiderlin's mix-up gave the ball away in the last minute of normal time, and nearly marred an impeccable second-half team

But Craig Davies' free kick went just over the cross bar, leaving Kelvin Davis to celebrate yet another clean sheet.

The much-maligned Guly did himself no harm with his second half display but he was denied the chance to create another chance from Cork's



Stephen Dawson.

Second half show delights manager

SAINTS boss Nigel Adkins was delighted with his side's second-half performance against

Barnsley.
Adam Lallana scored a goal in each half to complete a perfect afternoon for Saints, with pro-motion rivals West Ham dropping two points at home to Doncaster.
Adkins said: "I was delighted

Adkins said: "I was delighted with the second half performance against a very spirited Barnsley side. We kept possession of the ball very well. "We scored two very good goals, Adam reacted quickly for the first one and Tadanari Lee made a great run for the second. "Having seen the video replay, I know we should also have had

I know we should also have had a penalty."

Saints now have a week off before visiting Millwall next

"We've got ten games to go and "We've got ten games to go and this was the first time we've played in such heat for a long time," said Adkins. "That dictated the tempo of the game and is why I bought Rickie Lambert off with half an hour to

go.
"It's especially difficult for the big lads in the heat after tough games against Leeds and Ipswich recently.

"We've got a strong squad and it's great for Southampton FC that we're able to take someone like Rickie off with ten minutes



GAME OVER: Adam Lallana celebrates making it 2-0 with Danny Fox and Jose Fonte.

THE DAILY ECHO SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 2012

Saints Spotlight

Doncaster

CHAMPIONSHIP SECOND-placed West Ham are only ahead of Reading on goal difference as the Hammers drew with Doncaster while the in-form Royals beat Leicester. Sam Allardyce's men made a

great start as Kevin Nolan scored in the ninth minute, but Rovers hit back through James Coppinger (73).

Reading recorded their eighth straight win to join West Ham on 66 points, as goals from Mikele Leigertwood (15), Jason Roberts (75) and Simon Church (89) put them in control before Neil Danns scored a late consolation for the Foxes.

Blackpool dropped out of the play-off places after a 3-1 defeat at Peterborough.
Posh were looking to avoid a

third straight loss and led 2-0 at half-time with goals from Tyrone Barnett (27) and Paul Taylor (43). Nouha Dicko pulled one back with 10 minutes to go, but George Boyd's 86th-minute strike from Tommy Rowe's cross made the points safe for Darren Ferguson's team.

The midlands derby between Coventry and play-off hopefuls Birmingham at the Ricoh Arena finished 1-1 as Gary McSheffrey and Marlon King scored against their former clubs. The result left the Sky Blues still in the bottom

Hull stayed ninth after they were pegged back from 2-0 up to draw 2-2 at home to Ipswich. Goals from Robbie Brady (17) and Robert Koren (54) put the Tigers in charge but Grant Leadbitter scored twice in three minutes for Paul Jewell's men.

Watford won 2-1 at Derby as goals from Sean Murray and Troy Deeney inside the first 15 minutes gave them the perfect start at Pride Park. Ben Davies replied for the Rams after half an

Derby's east midlands rivals Nottingham Forest won 3-1 at home to Millwall to boost their survival hopes. They led 2-0 at half-time thanks to goals from Garath McCleary (25) and Danny Higginbotham (38) before Darius Henderson's 14th goal of the season gave the Lions hope with 26 minutes left. However, Forest wrapped it up with a 20-yard strike from Andy Reid 10 minutes from time.

Burnley and Crystal Palace drew 1-1 at Turf Moor with a penalty apiece. Jay Rodriguez scored from the spot in the second minute with his 15th of the season, but the Eagles hit back through Darren Ambrose's 63rdminute penalty and held on to make it just one defeat in 10 league games despite the dismissal of Wilfried Zaha.

Hammers are held by MAYTHE FORGE BE

FORMER Saints star Steve Moran is set to embark on a gruelling 1,400-mile cycling challenge as he bids to raise money and awareness for muscular dystrophy charities.

The 51-year-old will visit 26 different football grounds across the country in the space of 21 days next month, nicknaming his mission the 'Premiership Pedalathon'.

The inspiration behind the effort The inspiration behind the effort is the 12-year-old son of Moran's partner, Hayley.

Connor Lancaster was diagnosed with Duchenne Muscular

Dystrophy when he was three.

"It is a particularly nasty type of muscular dystrophy that only affects boys," explained Moran, who played for Saints from 1979 until 1986.

"There are only about 100 people born with this disease every year in this country.
"I vowed to myself I had to do

something to try, in my own little way, to make a difference – not only for Connor, but all the other suffer-

ers. "Hopefully it will help raise some

awareness of this.
"They're very close to finding a treatment, and it's only time and

Gordon Simpson gordon.simpson@dailyecho.co.uk SPORTS REPORTER

money which is going to prove an

"So it becomes even more important for me to do this.

Moran aims to visit the grounds of all 20 Premier League clubs, as well as Wembley Stadium and the other five sides he played for in his career Saints, Leicester, Reading, Exeter and Hull.

and Hull.

He is also planning a stop off at
Lord's Cricket Ground, where his
nephew Toby Roland-Jones plays
for Middlesex, while he hopes to gain permission to ride a lap at London's Olympic Velodrome.

Moran aims to pick up a signed shirt at each of the grounds and will

auction them off at a gala dinner in the summer.

The money he raises will be split between four charities – the Connor Lancaster Trust, Martin House Hospice, Muscular Dystrophy Campaign, and Action Duchenne.

"In an ideal world, I would like to raise millions," said Moran, who lives near York and drives lorries for a living.
"But if I could get £20,000 for each

of the four charities that would be

fantastic.
"Anybody putting their hand in their pocket and donating, even if it's just a fiver, will help."
In his time at Southampton

Moran made 229 appearances, with the forward netting 99 goals - none more famous than his injury-time winner in an FA Cup fourth round tie at Fratton Park in 1984.



CAPTION: Steve Moran and Connor Lancaster. who was diagnosed with **Duchenne** Muscular Dystrophy when he was three.



To this day, he remains a firm favourite with the Saints fans.

And he admits he has been bowled

over by the support he has already eceived from them ahead of his challenge.

"The response from Southampton fans has been absolutely fantastic," said Moran, who is due to cycle from St Mary's to Reading's Madejski Stadium on Friday, April 13 – the same day Reading make the return trip for a potential promotion crunch contest at Saints.

"The amount of people who have been offering to cycle with me or put me up somewhere in the Southampton area has been bril-

liant. "There's a Southampton fan who

lives in Dorset whose lad is 12years-old and has got exactly the same disease as Connor.
"He said he's willing to do a bit of

cycling with me, drive the support van and sort out a hotel for me in Bridport.

There's lots of stories like that.

"A lot of it has been from the Southampton area, where I had my best years.

Moran added: "I've received unbe-lievable support, even through just going on sites like Facebook and

Twitter.

"The kindness and generosity of people, and football fans generally, has been incredible.

"It's just getting the message out to everyone to let them know about

Moran admits he is "not really" a cyclist, but insists the size of the task he faces is nothing in comparison to what Connor has to deal

"It's easy compared to what he

has to go through on a day-to-day basis," he said.

"If I've got to go through a bit of pain to do this, it's nothing compared to what he deals with.

Moran did, however, draw the line on Star Wars fan Connor's fancy dress plans for him.
"He wanted me to do each leg dressed up as a Star Wars character," said Moran, laughing.

Hard enough

"But he suggested Chewbacca and Darth Vader for the first two.

"I said that it's going to be hard enough as it is without dressing up like that."

Moran and his partner have a ten-month old boy, Harvey, together. Doctors told them he had a 50/50

chance of being born with muscular dystrophy, as Hayley carries the

Fortunately, though, he has avoided the disorder – and he is proving a big hit with Connor.

"Connor absolutely adores his lit-tle brother," said Moran, who added how proud he and Hayley are at the way he approaches life.

"He just gets on with things.
"You know it's a struggle some-times, but he seldom complains.

"He's always singing and dancing around, and he normally has a smile on his face.

smile on his face.
"He absolutely loves life to the full. We are so proud of him."
The Premiership Pedalathon will begin at Martin House Hospice, in Yorkshire, on April 1, and is due to finish at Hull City's KC Stadium for their game with Nottingham Forest on Saturday, April 21.
Full details of the challenge, as

well as how to donate, can be found at premiershippedalathon.co.uk Posters and sponsor forms are also available for anyone who would like to become involved in the fundraising.

1 *Contact Steve via the website*

or by emailing steve@premiershippedalathon.co.uk

Saints Spotlight

WITH YOU, STEVE!



STEVE MORAN'S CYCLING ROUTE

Leg 1 - Martin House Hospice -Sunderland (Approx 84 miles) Leg 2 - Sunderland - Newcastle

(Approx 15 miles) Leg 3 - Newcastle - Blackburn (Approx 120 miles)

Leg 4 - Blackburn - Bolton (Approx 20 miles)
Leg 5 - Bolton - Manchester City

(Approx 21 miles)

Leg 6 - Manchester City -

Manchester United (Approx 5 miles)
Leg 7 - Manchester United – Wigan

(Approx 26 miles) Leg 8 - Wigan - Liverpool (Approx

20 miles) Leg 9 - Liverpool - Everton (Approx 1

Leg 10 - Everton - Stoke (Approx 65

Leg 11 - Stoke - Wolves (Approx 33

Leg 12 - Wolves - WBA (Approx 13

Leg 13 - WBA - Aston Villa (Approx 4 miles)

(Approx 150 miles) Leg 15 - Swansea - Exeter (Approx

165 miles) Leg 16 - Exeter - Southampton

(Approx 110 miles)
Leg 17 - Southampton - Reading

(Approx 46 miles) Leg 18 - Reading - Wembley (Approx

45 miles) Leg 19 - Wembley - QPR (Approx 5

Leg 20 - QPR - Fulham (Approx 4 miles)

Leg 22 - Chelsea - Lords's (Approx 5

Leg 23 - Lord's - Arsenal (Approx 5

Leg 24 - Arsenal - Tottenham Approx 4 miles)

Leg 25 - Tottenham - Leicester (Approx 105 miles)

Leg 26 - Leicester - Norwich (Approx 120 miles)

Leg 27 - Norwich - Hull (Approx 146

TWEETS OF THE WEEK

ADAM Lallana (@adlallana1) enjoyed his day out at Elland Road, despite being injured last week. He was right about the result as well. "Up in Leeds supporting the lads! Not far off full fitness! Great atmosphere at Elland road, fancy us for all 3 points COYR"

So too Billy Sharp (@billysharp10): "Great win today leeds played well but super kelvin davis was on fire.

Jos Hooiveld (@joshooivel20) enjoyed being involved:
"WOW!! Pressure throughout
the whole game but we pulled
it through thanks to Kelvin his magnetic hands! Hahaha, great

The Dutchman also joked: "The whole of leeds police force is looking for our bus.. Probably because there are three stolen points in it! Hahaha lovethempoints"

Jack Cork (@jackcork1) was also in disbelief following last week's win: "Wow can't believe the game today. Back 5 were immense! And great goal by Lambo. I've played better myself, but as long as we won I'm happy."



JACK CORK

Richard Chaplow (@Rchap04) gave his verdict on Manchester United's midweek Europa Cup defeat at home to Athletic Bilbao: "Bilbao were outstanding pulled utds pants down all game, easy on the eye! Uphill for utd now obviously"

Steve De Ridder (@stief87) was blown away by Lionel Messi's five-goal salvo in the Champions League: "Every footballer on earth must feel so small watching that man play...guesswho"

Hampshire batsman Michael carberry (@carbs646) was proud of Arsenal's valiant fightback against AC Milan: "Hey everyone what a great effort from the arsenal boys yesterday very very proud supporter heartandguts'

THE DAILY ECHO SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 2012

Sports

1 Chelsea's Italian caretaker manager Roberto Di Matteo was born in which country 2 Great Britain will have one male defending champion in their team at the IAAF World Indoor Championships in Istanbul this weekend. Name

3 Rachel Smith represents Great Britain at which Olympic sport? 4 Goalkeeper Anders Lindegaard joined Manchester United from which club? 5 Name the Irish cyclist who has won the Paris-Nice cycle race more times than anyone else? 6 Which side are top of the Blue Square Bet Conference? 7 Australia all-rounder Moises Henriques will play for which county next season?

8 Which driver won the last Grand Prix of the 2011 Formula 1 season in Brazil?

9 Justin Tipuric plays rugby union for which international side? 10 Who is the highest ranked American golfer in the PGA rankings? 11 Drew Sullivan is cap-tain of the Great Britain team in which sport? 12 West Ham signed defender

RORY McILROY

George McCartney on loan from which club? 13 Winger Elliot Kear plays for which Stobart Super League

14 Who is the highest-placed Australian in the men's world golf rankings?

15 Scottish boxer Ricky Burns is a world champion at which

16 Andrew Strauss plays cricket for which county side? 17 Sven-Goran Eriksson has

managed which three international football teams?
18 Rory McIlroy won which of

golf's majors last year? 19 Who is the women's world tennis number one?

20 What was the name of the Olympic Stadium in Beijing? 21 How many caps did Lewis Moody win for England? 22 Which club did David Moyes manage before moving to

23 Who is Australia's Twenty20

captain?
24 Over what distance is Great Britain's Rebecca Adlington a

world-record holder? 25 Which country was British and Irish Lions fly-half Ronan O'Gara born?

Answers

Answers I Switzerland; 2 Dwain Chambers; 3 Rhythmic gymnastics; 4 Aalesund; 5 Sean Kelly, 6 Hleetwood Town; 7 Glamorgan; 8 Mark Webber; 9 Wales; 10 Steve Stricker (fifth), 11 Baskethall; 12 Sunderland; 13 Bradford Bulls; 14 Jason Day (seventh); 15 Lightweight, 16 Middlesex; 17 Lightweight, 16 Widdlesex; 17 Lightweight, 18 US Open; 19 Victoria Azarenka; 20 The Bird's Mometres; 25 Gorge Bailey; 24 800metres; 25 United States (San Diego). States (San Diego).

BEAUTIFUL BY DAREN WHEELER

The best £1 million Saints ever spent?

THE announcement that Rickie Lambert and Nigel Adkins had been nominated for player of the month and manager of the month respectively, came as little surprise to any of us did it? As per usual we can look forward to someone

else winning the award and for most of us a sly, sigh of relief as the dreaded winner's curse passes us by. But this time, and it may just be me, I'm really hoping that at least Lambert gets what we all agree he most definitely deserves.

On Wednesday Sam Allardyce reckoned that, if he had Lambert in his side, they'd have won the league weeks ago. Normally you'd write off such platitudes as a bit of kidology from the manager in question but, as Allardyce is hardly known for his intellectual acumen, I'd

hazard a guess and say "Big" Sam has made a bit of a faux pas.

For someone who signed two new strikers in the January transfer window, just what sort of message does that send, that one man could win your team

> seen some genuine Saints legends up front I honestly believe that Lambert is up there with the best of them. In terms of the opposition in front of you, Lambert has taken each challenge in his stride and seems to just get better and better.

video showing the best of Lambert's goals for Bristol. They were sen-sational and showed a man capable of scoring goals of Le Tissier-like quality and gave a

Not much doubt it has to be Rickie

must be every manager's dream... Well he certainly is Allardyce's.
All in all Rickie Lambert will probably rank as

possibly the best £1 million Saints have ever spent.

Top goalscorer in each division, in three consec-

top goalscorer in each division, in three consecutive seasons? Lambert is quite simply the best striker in England right now. You fans of Premiership clubs may laugh but can any one of you provide a case for Andy Carroll over Rickie Lambert?.... I thought not.
The impressive 0-1 away win at Elland Road

showed us one thing, just how good a goalkeeper Kelvin Davis is. If anyone earned their day in the sun, under the glare of the Sky Cameras, it was

Let's not forget this is the man who turned down Premiership West Ham to stay with League One Southampton following our relegation from the Championship. Saturday's win fully justified his decision and kept Saints above West Ham against

The race for the title is certainly hotting up with Reading now looking very strong contenders for

The vast majority of the London obsessed media can't see past West Ham but you'd be remarkably foolish to write off a south coast promotion double for first and second.

Form means nothing; an unfortunate Saints draw at home against Ipswich had most West Ham fans hanging out the bunting for the imminent title celebrations.

Their fortunate draw at home to Watford put paid to that and put the ball firmly in Reading's court. Win their game in hand and they'll be level with Saints with only our superior goal difference keeping us top.

The truth is any game can be won, any game can be lost; it's what makes the Championship the league to watch at the moment.

SAM ALLARDYCE

It makes you wonder just why the BBC are doing away with the Football League show and why ESPN don't abandon the Sky's cast off games in favour of committed coverage of the Championship and Leagues 1 and 2?

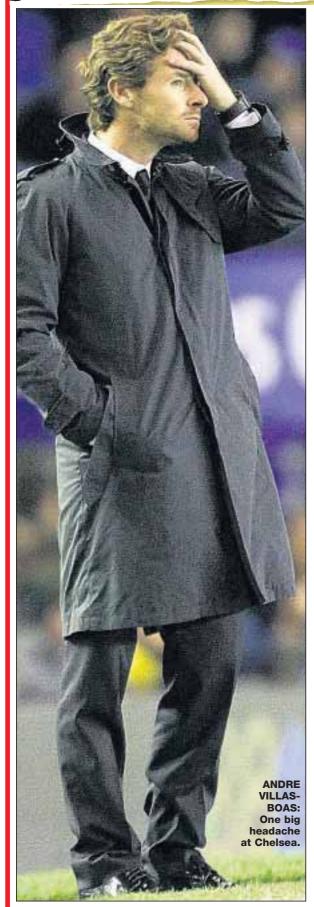
It makes sense surely? Rather than watching Wolves versus Fulham on Sky why not view a pulsating promotional clash in the

Championship?
I know what I'd rather



Paine's World

The Saints legend's **EXCLUSIVE** column on all things football



TROUBLED WATERS AT THE BRIDGE

IT turned out to be a brief and unsuccessful stay at Stamford Bridge for Chelsea's sacked boss Andre Villas-Boas.

In hindsight it was a move too soon for a young manager with such a limited background in the hurly-burly of the Premier League.

His breakthrough came when he led FC Porto to their 25th league title, by a record 21-point margin.

But one has to question the decision to employ such an inexperienced manager in the first place.

In his short career, AVB tasted success after success but there were no obvious setbacks so Roman Abramovich would have not had the answers to several questions when the appointment was made.

How would he react when things go wrong? How would he deal with a losing run or a £50m striker who can't score?

Managing players who had success under a plethora of experienced managers was never going to be easy.

But Roman Abramovich and his advisors had appointed AVB on a three-year deal with the prospect of gradually changing the face of an ageing team. A team, by the way, that had won three Premier League titles, three FA Cups and reached the Champions League final in the Abramovich era.

For me, AVB was in too much of a hurry in trying to make his presence felt. He should have had a softly, softly approach instead of alienating so many senior players.

His decisions off the field – like the treatment of popular senior players Nicolas Anelka and Alex – did nothing to help his cause.

Anelka and Alex were made unwelcome in the first team building and banned from the firstteam car park. Inexplicably, Anelka

Inexplicably, Anelka was even excluded from Christmas dinner at the training ground. This caused nothing but anarchy in the dressing room.

Confrontations resulted in reserve coach Dermot Drummy and the reserve team players being kicked out of the main training building, leaving Drummy's only line of communication through assistant first-team coach Steve Holland.

Other stories are now

appearing that show the relationship between the manager and his players was fragile to say the least

Abramovich's gamble on a 34-year-old has backfired. Roberto Di Matteo's first game in temporary charge was an FA Cup win at Birmingham. But perhaps the most revealing aspect of that game was the 3,000 Chelsea supporters letting their feelings known by chanting Jose Mourinho's name throughout the 90 mins.

Abramovich made a huge mistake when he let the Special One leave in 2007 and another when Carlo Ancelotti was sacked.

If Abramovich is taking advice from his inner circle perhaps the best decision he could make is to fire them.



ROMAN ABRAMOVICH

Mario is baffling Mancini

ROBERTO Mancini must be pulling his hair out as he tries to steer Manchester City towards the Premier League title.

Once more the spectre of Mario Balotelli raises its ugly head. What has this talented young player got for brains?

The controversial Italian has been fined a week's wages, estimated at £120,000, for breaking the club's curfew by being seen and reported outside a strip club in Liverpool early on Friday morning less than 48 hours before Bolton game.

This is a blatant breach of club discipline and not the first time he has stepped out of line. My thoughts are with City's other players. What must



LAUGHING MATTER: Mario Balotelli sees the joke – Sergio Aguero is not so sure.

they make of this persistent offender?

Is he getting special treatment from his Italian manager?

Should he have been on the bench against Bolton last week?

And does the fact he scored make it the right decision?

I know how the rest of the squad will react if they fail to win the title. They will point fingers at a manager who allowed a 21-year-old to run wild to the detriment of all that was planned and worked for at the City of Manchester Community stadium this season.









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Daily Echo

dam Rant 🛦

This week's big talking points with **Adam Leitch**

Payback time?

THERE may be quite a lot of staring at the ground, hoping not to get noticed, going on in English cricket after the conviction of Allan Stanford on a string of fraud charges.

The financier, who now faces a lengthy prison term, famously splashed his cash about on his love of cricket, getting the England team to play exhibition Twenty20 in the West Indies and effectively handing £50,000 to each county

That's a lot of money, but it now seems it was never really his to give to them.

So should they pay it back? One argument will be a lot of time has passed and the clubs have spent the money.

The other side of the coin is that it's their moral duty to hand it

Stanford conned a lot of people out of hardearned cash, not just the rich and wealthy and, if the same had happened over here and the money had gone to an American baseball team, you might think they should pay back their share.

Lew puts it on line

LEWIS Moody's retirement from professional rugby was always likely to be through injury rather than age

But it's only a mark of how he played and, as the saying goes, how he would want it.

Moody, pictured above, won admiration the world over for his incredible character out on the pitch and his willingness to do whatever it took, putting his body on the line time and again for the cause.

He was a fantastic servant to English rugby and, after one injury too many, now is the right time to call it a day before any more serious damage is sustained.

But he bowed out having put himself on the line one last time.

It seems a fitting way for him to exit the stage. rather than a sad one



Abramovich doesn't seem to have quite the backbone you'd expect when it comes to his football club.

money and business

success,

Roman

The Russian has famously ploughed millions of his own cash into Chelsea and, as such, he is in a position where he can do what he wants with it.

But the sacking of Andre Villas-Boas, pictured, plumbed new depths.
That makes it eight managers in nine years in charge

of the club for Abramovich. In any other business you would not be looking at the managers selves to see where things had gone wrong, but those responsible for appointing them. Can all these high

profile, experienced managers be so wrong all the time? Or is there just an underlying problem at

Chelsea? The answer is surely the latter.

A b r a m -ovich's mil-lions gave the club a huge boost, but one thing they have done, which is something you might not have expected from a seemingly impatient owner, is stick with a pretty

whatever their efforts on the field have brought, while the manager has always been the one to make way when things weren't going quite according to plan.

However, sport moves on, nothing lasts forever and even great players get old. As such, Chelsea seem stuck in a time warp.

If Abramovich wants to be regularly competing for the Champions League, as appears his great desire, he needs to look at the squad as well as the manager.

It appeared that was why he brought in

A revolution was required, somebody to break up the cabals of all powerful play-ers who can seem to run the show some of the time, and in the summer a moving on of those whose best days are probably now behind them.

Villas-Boas seemed to be doing that difficult job, and the fact it appeared he was unpopular with some of the players underlined he was probably doing exactly

what most thought was required.

But surely nobody could have expected that, in a season such as this, that high flying results would follow.

Anybody who thinks that a frustrated, threatened footballer is always going to go out and give 100 per cent to the cause, lay their body on the line time after time because of their love of the game or the badge they kiss, is deluded.

Life is generally not that romantic, and football rarely is.

For Chelsea to re-establish themselves as a power, they need to move on.
Perhaps Villas-Boas was not strong

enough to do the axing job, perhaps it needs a Jose Mourinho figure to gently coax a few out the door, and to shove out a few others.

But there were few people laughing at the odds of John Terry becoming manag-er because, from the outside, it would seem the players are virtually in charge anyway.

It seems strange Abramovich would act in this way and not be stronger. It makes you wonder how he got so rich in the first place.

King Rory's fight to stay on throne

IT'S going to be a fascinating six months in the world of golf.

Rory McIlroy has completed his unstoppable rise from prodigiously talented teenager to major winner and now world number one.

It seems he has it all - the titles, the top spot, the money, the dream job, the famous girlfriend.

He looks like he has the ability to remain at the very pinnacle of his sport for a long time.

However, there were some telling words from those who will probably be his chief rivals for the number one spot in the foreseeable future - Tiger Woods and Lee Westwood.

They were gracious enough to praise McIlroy, but it was fairly faint praise.

In the final round of the Honda Classic, the event McIlroy, pictured right, won to reach world number one, they shot 62 and 63 respectively.

Perhaps that was a mark of how motivated they were to try and prove it is they and not the young pretender that belongs

on the throne.

And maybe McIlroy's presence there is going to motivate them as much as it will him.

If so, expect some fireworks.



Saints Spotlight



SAINTS' FIRST TEAM FIXTURES AND RESULTS 2011/12

SAINTS' F		1	12			\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\					10		12	13	14
Sat 13 Barnsley A Tues 16 Ipswich A Sat 20 Millwall H Sat 27 Leicester A Tues 30 Swindon (CC2) A	W 1-0 W 5-2 W 1-0 L 2-3	Bialkowski	Richardson Butterfield Richardson Richardson Richardson* Richardson*	Fonte Seaborne Fonte Fonte Fonte Fonte Seaborne	Martin Martin Seaborne Seaborne Seaborne Seaborne Martin	Harding Dickson Harding Harding Harding Harding Harding Harding	Do Prado** De Ridder** 1 Do Prado* Do Prado* Do Prado 1 Do Prado** Holmes**	Hammond*** 1 Chaplow 1 Hammond Hammond Hammond* Hammond Schneiderlin	Cork Schneiderlin Cork Cork Cork Cork Cork	Lallana 1 Holmes* Lallana*** Lallana*** 2 Lallana** Lallana Lallana	Lambert 1 Lambert 1 Lambert 2 Lambert 2 Lambert Lambert Forte* 1	Connolly* 1 Do Prado*** Connolly** 1 Connolly** 1 Connolly*** Connolly 1 Do Prado*** 1	De Ridder* Lallana* Chaplow* Schneiderlin* Schneiderlin* Schneiderlin* Lambert* 1	Chaplow** Hammond** De Ridder** Fox** Fox** De Ridder** Hammond**	Schneiderlin*** Forte*** 1 Schneiderlin*** De Ridder*** De Ridder*** Fox*** Hoskins***
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OCTOBER Sat 1 Watford H Sat 15 Derby A Tues 18 West Ham. H Sat 22 Reading A Tues 25 Crystal Palace (CC4) A Sat 29 Middlesbrough H	D 1-1 W 1-0 D 1-1 L 0-2	Davis Davis Davis Bialkowski	Richardson Richardson** Richardson Richardson Butterfield Butterfield	Fonte Fonte Fonte* Martin Fonte	Hooiveld Hooiveld 1 Hooiveld 1 Hooiveld Cork Hooiveld	Fox Fox Fox Harding Fox	De Ridder* Do Prado*** Do Prado*** Do Prado*** De Ridder Chaplow	Hammond Schneiderlin Hammond Hammond Ward-Prowse Hammond***	Cork** Cork Schneiderlin Cork Schneiderlin Cork	Lallana*** Chaplow* Chaplow* Chaplow Holmes** Lallana**	Lambert 2 Lambert 1 Lambert Lambert Reeves*** Lambert	Do Prado 1 Connolly Connolly** Connolly** Forte* Do Prado* 2	Chaplow* De Ridder* Harding* Martin* Barnard* Connolly* 1	Schneiderlin** Hammond** Cork** De Ridder** 1 Lambert** Schneiderlin**	Holmes*** 1 Harding*** De Ridder*** Schneiderlin*** Do Prado*** De Ridder***
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BARTOSZ BIALKOWSKI	1	0	7	0	41(1)	0	RICHARD CHAPLOW	11(7)	3	3	1	41(10)	6	DANNY FOX	25(4)	0	3	0	28(4)	0
TOMMY FORECAST	0	0	0	0	0	0	DEAN HAMMOND	23(9)	1	3(3)	01	21(13)	11	JOS HOOIVLED	28	4	2	1	30	5
DANNY BUTTERFIELD	2(1)	0	3	0	41(4)	0	JACK CORK	31(3)	0	4	0	59(4)	0	JAMES WARD-PROWSE	0	0	2	0	2	0
FRAZER RICHARDSON	28	0	4	0	49(7)	0	MORGAN SCHNEIDERL	IN 21(12)	2	6	01	23(27)	3	SAM HOSKINS	0	0	0(2)	0	0(2)	0
DAN HARDING	12(5)	- 1	5	0	110(8)	5	ADAM LALLANA	29	8	4(2)	21	63(19)	44	JACK STEPHENS	0	0	0(1)	0	0(1)	0
RYAN DICKSON	0	0	2	0	19(11)	1	LEE HOLMES	0(5)	1	4(1)	0	21(21)	3	YAGO FALQUE	1	0	0	0	1	0
BEN REEVES	0(2)	0	3(2)	0	3(4)	0	RICKIE LAMBERT	31	21	3(4)	5	139(7)	82	JASON PUNCHEON	2(3)	0	2	0	43(3)	3
JOSE FONTE	30	0	2(1)	0	104(1)	7	LEE BARNARD	0(4)	0	1(2)	0	45(26)	24	TADANARI LEE	3(2)	1	1(2)	0	4(4)	1
RADHI JAIDI	0	0	0	0	67(1)	4	GULY DO PRADO	30(2)	10	3(1)	1	60(15)	22	LUKE SHAW	0	0	0(1)	0	0(1)	0
AARON MARTIN	6(2)	- 1	8	0	22(6)	1	DAVID CONNOLLY	16(8)	6	1	0	37(29)	17	BILLY SHARP	3(2)	0	0	0	3(2)	0
DAN SEABORNE	4	0	2	0	35(15)	0	JONATHAN FORTE	0(1)	0	3(1)	2	5(10)	4							

KEY: LA: league appearances. LG: league goals. CA: cup appearances. CG: cup goals. CSA: career Saints appearances. CSG: career Saints goals.

Chelsea, Tranmere and Hereford ... they're all pretty similar, really!

Simon Carter simon.carter@dailyecho.co.uk SPORTS EDITOR

ANOTHER week, another three bite the dust.

Andre Villas-Boas might well have been the most high profile managerial departure, but he was quickly joined by Les Parry and Jamie Pittman as being out of work football managers in the past few days.

On the face of it, Chelsea have little in common with Transpere Royers or Hereford

with Tranmere Rovers or Hereford.

But the universal language of football dictates that results are key.

Whether it's at Stamford Bridge, with a demanding, mega wealthy owner, or Prenton Park or Edgar Streer, where avoiding relegation in front of a couple of thousand fans is the primary objective rather than the collection of silverware at home and abroad, there is pressure.

Justifiably so.

Chelsea not winning any trophies this season might be a nightmare scenario for Roman Abramovich, given the sheer weight of money he has thrown at the club.

But Hereford being relegated back to the non league scene would be an equally big disaster for Hereford chairman Davis Keyte, hence the decision to sack Pittman this week (after a win!).

And Tranmere chairman Peter Johnson

And Tranmere chairman Peter Johnson would be similarly concerned about his club's slide towards the League 1 relegation zone – a 1-0 loss at fellow strugglers Chesterfield earning Les Parry, who just over 12 months ago was guiding Rovers to victory against Saints in a league game, the boot.

Johnson is celebrating 25 years as major shareholder of Tranmere this season, and you could therefore argue he has earnt the right to do what the hell he likes with his managers.

(Will any of the foreign owners currently in charge at Premiership clubs still be around in 10 years' time, let alone ever celebrating a quarter of a century ...?)

Given their slump, and the fact it's a results business, Parry probably couldn't have too many complaints. Tranmere hadn't won in 11 games.

And he'd been in charge since the autumn of 2009, replacing the hapless John Barnes.

Two and a half years in charge of a Football League club might not sound that long, but compared to some – compared to Villas-Boas, for example – it was a fair run.

It's not as if Les Parry had been sacked after only three defeats in 55 league games, as Huddersfield's Lee Clark recently was.

It's not as if he was sacked on the back of a major derby victory and with his side third in the table, as Sheffield Wednesday's Gary Megson recently was.

And it's not as if he was sacked with his team still in the FA Cup, still in the Champions League, and with a realistic chance of a top four Premiership finish, as Villas-Boas was.

Parry was sacked for the same reason managers have always been sacked (until recently) – bad results.



leave on their own accord – by early January.

At the end of the 2010/11 season, up to the end of

June, there had been 57 departures.

That is by no means the highest figure of

That is by no means the highest figure of modern times.

The unwanted record belongs to the 2001/02 campaign, when there were a remarkable 72 managerial changes.

Seventy two! In 92 clubs!

Research clearly underlines what everyone expects to be true – that a manager's tenure is shorter now than a few decades ago.

It seems strange to think that once upon a time, while the Premier League was around, there were only 31 departures in a season.

That was back in 1995/96, not that long ago really.

In seasons 1991/92 and 1992/93 there were only 26 departures in both terms, and only 28 in 1987/88, 30 in 1988/89 and 31 in 1989/90. You do not need to be John Motson to under-

You do not need to be John Motson to understand how the figures have climbed since.

Not only do we now have the cash-cow which is the Premier League, but down in the old Fourth Division there is now automatic relegation to non league football, something which never existed prior to 1987.

So there is greater pressure to stay in the top flight, greater pressure to get there, and greater pressure not to go down to the Conference.

Of course, like many things in professional football before the money men moved in, it wasn't always like this.

In 1971/72 there were only EIGHTEEN managerial changes, but in fairness the likes of Abramovich, Milan Mandaric, Rupert Lowe and their impatient peers weren't around in boardrooms then ..!

Even as recent as the 1979/80 season, there were only 20 departures. Last season there were half that in the top flight alone.

I was astounded to see that Harry Redknapp is the 10th longest serving manager in the top four divisions.

It doesn't seem all that long ago when he arrived at White Hart Lane, and in fact it was October 2008.

Even our old friend Gus Poyet at Brighton is 20th in the list.

Poyet said: "Talking specifically about results,

Poyet said: "Talking specifically about results, Megson and Clark were unjustified, because they were in the top six.

"Like I have said in the Championship, if there are 12 teams that have got to get to the Premier League and only three can go (up) that means the other nine have failed, so they are going to get the sack because they didn't make it?

"It's nonsense. It doesn't matter how well you do, maybe somebody else does better. And that makes you a bad manager because somebody else has done better than you? "Who is going to win the Premier League? Is the

"Who is going to win the Premier League? Is the one who doesn't win it going to get the sack, Mancini or Ferguson? So if Manchester United win the league, that means Manchester City have done badly?"

QUOTESOF THE WEEK

"It is a big, big disappointment. Every defeat Chelsea suffers piles more pressure on any manager" - Andre Villas-Boas speaking straight after the 1-0 defeat to West Brom which ultimately cost him his job as Chelsea manager.

"Looking for what is an eighth manager in nine years is a serious embarrassment to the owner, the club, the fans and the league" - League Managers' Association chief executive Richard Bevan believes Chelsea are not helping anyone with their constant change of managers.

"It will be hell for whoever succeeds him" - former Chelsea boss Luiz Felipe Scolari, pictured, will not envy Villas-Boas' successor.



"The players put in a faultless performance, with fantastic spirit and you can only congratulate the whole team. We were very close" - Arsenal boss Arsene Wenger praises his team after they beat AC Milan 3-0 to fall agonisingly short of a stunning Champions League turnaround.

"I was like, 'No way, Zlatan doesn't do auditions" - AC Milan striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic reveals he turned down the chance to move to Arsenal earlier in his career because boss Arsene Wenger wanted him to go through a trial.

"We've got a list. Long, short...
there's definitely a list. It's a backend-of-the-season decision for us" Football Association general secretary
Alex Home reveals his organisation is
in no hurry to appoint a new England
manager.

"Mario played well. He had a lot of chances. Maybe next time if he goes to sleep early he can score three or four goals" - Manchester City boss Roberto Mancini after Mario Balotelli scored against Bolton following reports he had broken a club curfew.



"The issue is more one of a small bladder than excessive drinking" - Harlequins scrum-half Danny Care, pictured left, following his latest drink-related arrest.

"I didn't see it clearly, but there was probably a lot of rolling around. He may have even kneeled up and prayed. He's known for making a meal of it. But I can't really complain - he won us a fair few penalties in the Championship" - Swansea's Alan Tate accuses former teammate Jordi Gomez - now with Wigan - of overreacting to a Nathan Dyer challenge which led to a red card.

"Firstly they forced the player to travel, then they forced him to play 90 minutes after being injured and had a centre-back on the bench who did not play at all, in a friendly game knowing they do not even go to the European Championship. For me, that is difficult to understand" - Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger is seething at Belgium's decision to play Thomas Vermaelen for the full 90 minutes of their friendly against Greece.

CRUISES









Cruise Line	Ship	Date	Nights	From	Destination	Price £ from per person
P&O ◆ CRUISES	Oceana	21-Mar-12	14	Southampton	Mediterranean	£699
P&O ₩ CRUISES	Ventura	01-Apr-12	14	Southampton	Western Mediterranean	£899
P&O ◆ CRUISES	Oceana	04-Apr-12	11	Southampton	Canary Islands	£899
P&O ★ CRUISES	Azura	15-Apr-12	14	Southampton	Western Mediterranean	£799
P&O	Oceana	24-Apr-12	12	Southampton	Western Mediterranean	£599
P&O ◆ CRUISES	Oriana	26-Apr-12	22	Southampton	Caribbean - NO FLY	£1,299
P&O ★ CRUISES	Oriana	18-May-12	7	Southampton	Fjords	£599
P&O ★ CRUISES	Aurora	19-May-12	14	Southampton	Fjords & North Cape	£899
P&O & CRUISES	Azura	19-May-12	14	Southampton	Baltic UP £880 ON BOARD SPEND TO £880 PER STATEROOM	£1,439
P&O	Arcadia	26-Jun-12	7	Southampton	Fjords UP £240 ON BOARD SPEND TO £240 PER STATEROOM	£829
P&O	Aurora	17-Aug-12	7	Southampton	Fjords	£819
P&O & CRUISES	Adonia	24-Aug-12	7	Southampton	Fjords UP £400 ON BOARD SPEND TO £400 PER STATEROOM	£1,029
CUNARD	Queen Victoria	21-Apr-12	14	Southampton	Mediterranean	CALL NOW
CUNARD	Queen Victoria	04-Apr-12	17	Southampton	Mediterranean	£1,399
CUNARD	Queen Mary 2	11-May-12	11	Southampton	Northern Europe GETAWAY	£954
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CUNARD	Queen Mary 2	13-Jul-12	14	Southampton	The Fjords GETAWAY	£1,299
CUNARD	Queen Elizabeth	07-Aug-12	7	Southampton	The Fjords GETAWAY	£699
CUNARD	Queen Elizabeth	14-Aug-12	14	Southampton	Mediterranean GETAWAY	£1,399
CUNARD	Queen Victoria	17-Aug-12	7	Southampton	The Fjords GETAWAY	£699
CUNARD	Queen Victoria	24-Aug-12	4	Southampton	Cruise Break	£399
₽ PRINCESS	Grand Princess	02-May-12	17	Southampton	Mediterranean & Adriatic \$75 ON BOARD SPEND PER STATEROOM	£1,099
₽ PRINCESS	Caribbean Princess	14-May-12	12	Southampton	British Isles \$85 ON BOARD SPEND	£929
PRINCESS	Ocean Princess	03-Jun-12	14	Dover	Scandinavia & Russia Collection \$75 ON BOARD SPEND PER STATEROOM	£1,039
PLUS	S ESCORTED D	EPARTUF	RES E	XCLUSIVE TO	D BATTH TRAVEL - CALL FOR DETA	ILS
CUNARD	Queen Mary 2	24-Jun-12	19	Southampton	Transatlantic & 5 Nights New York - FREE PARKING	£3,186
CUNARD	Queen Elizabeth	27-Sep-12	15	London Victoria	Orient Express & Eastern Mediterranean	£3,599
CUNARD	Queen Elizabeth	21-Oct-12	15	London Victoria	Orient Express & Eastern Mediterranean	£3,399

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The Stevenage way — it's not pretty, but it is effective

THE Saints team that finished the 1988/89 reserve league season contained three players who would go on to win senior international caps for

But only two of them, Matt Le Tissier and Tim Flowers, would ever play for Saints'

The other would go on to join then non-league Wycombe Wanderers after being released by Saints.

From there, Winchester-born Steve Guppy would carve out an impressive Premier League career with Leicester before spending three years with Scottish giants Celtic.

It was during his time at Leicester (under his former Wycombe boss Martin O'Neill) that Guppy, who was spotted by Saints playing for Colden Common, won his only senior England cap - in a friendly against Belgium

England won that game 2-1 at Sunderland, and ex-Saints Alan Shearer and Jamie Redknapp were on target.

We know those two are now working in the media, but whatever happened to Steve Guppy, the former Southampton Tyro League youngster who represented his country at the highest level.

Well, he was recently appointed Stevenage's assistant manager to Gary Smith following the departure of Graham Westley to fellow Championship club Preston North End.

Last weekend I was at Exeter to watch Stevenage, who are aiming to create a bit of footballing history this season.

No club has ever won back to back promotions in their first two seasons as a Football League club after coming up from nonleague football.

The Hertfordshire club, therefore, are looking for their third successive promotion in 2011/12 – and no club has ever done that at such a lofty level of the English football

Remarkably, they have embarked on their phenomenal run after losing their star striker Steve Morison in the summer of 2009.

Morison was a regular 20-goals plus forward as Stevenage won the FA Trophy in 2007 an 2009.

For a while, they had been one of the most consistent clubs in the Conference. But following Morison's departure – a loss

that was expected to hit them hard - they instead romped to the Conference title in

They followed that up by winning last season's League 2 play-off final against Torquay at Old Trafford.

A few months earlier, they had humiliated Alan Pardew and his Newcastle United players by winning a live televised FA Cup tie 3-1 at their tiny Broadhall Way ground.

Ahead of this season, I fully expected

Stevenage to struggle.

I was there on the opening day of the 2011/12 campaign, paying my £21 to sit down and watch Exeter draw 0-0.

At the time I thought it was two points dropped by Paul Tisdale's men.

Now it looks like one gained.

Under Westley, Stevenage were certainly not liked by Exeter fans, and we weren't

There was a reputation for, shall we say, direct football with a physical edge.

But Westley – who made his managerial name with north Hampshire club Farnborough before leaving in a blaze of controversy to join Stevenage shortly after Boro's 2003 FA Cup tie against Arsenal – was

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SPORTS EDITOR

headhunted by Preston earlier this year. Credit where it's due to Stevenage chairman Phil Wallace, who thought 'outside the box' and appointed the relatively unknown Gary Smith as Westley's replacement.

For those of you who did not know, Smith is one of a small group of English managers who have won league titles in a foreign

Sir Bohby Robson and Steve McClaren are two high profile men who spring to mind as having done that too.

Smith's achievement garnered less column inches in his own country, though, as his success was in America.

With Guppy as his assistant, Smith guided the Colorado Rapids to the Major Soccer League crown in 2010, the same tournament that David Beckham was to win with LA Galaxy 12 months later.

Smith had coached at Wimbledon, Wycombe and Watford before joining the staff at Arsenal.

In 2008 the Gunners arranged for him to join the Rapids, who are owned by the

lem for them has been staying there Bury, Stockport, Rotherham, Gillingham, Crewe, Colchester and Southend have all been one step away from the Premier League.

well remember Stockport beating Manchester City in what is now the Championship.

The same City currently topping the top

flight with a multi-million pound squad, and the same Stockport now in the non league and who were battered 6-1 by Alfreton Town in a Conference game this week. I wonder which set of fans are rubbing their eyes in disbelief

hack

Stevenage. Were they to go up yet again this season, their achievement would rank as one of the greatest in Football League history.

Anyway

fourth The worst support-ed club in League 1 average 3,674 lening both



CLOSE CALL: Stevenage very nearly caused an upset over Tottenham in the FA Cup.

Premier League club's major shareholder Stan Kroenke.

From Arsenal to the United States to Stevenage, an unlikely route into Football League management.

A wider public got the chance to view Smith and Guppy's impact on the club on Wednesday when they faced Spurs in an FA Cup fifth round replay.

Stevenage were certainly not embar-rassed, taking an early lead and having a good chance to make it 2-0 at White Hart Lane before eventually losing 3-1 with all pride intact.

Now they can concentrate on trying to complete a historic hat-trick.

I was not surprised with their FA Cup display. Last weekend they looked a quick, confident, passing side with power in the right areas. They were much better than Exeter, despite the 1-1 scoreline, and I was fairly impressed with Smith's style and system.

There were no big names, not even household names in Hertfordshire probably, but they certainly seemed to have bought into the new manager's philosophy.

Many unfashionable clubs have reached

the second tier in modern times. The prob-

Sheffield clubs and Huddersfield for pro-

I would like to see them go up, if only to see the look on some ex-Premier League clubs' fans' faces when they go to Broadhall Way next term. "People said we

would murder them but they don't but they won they know what they are talking about, Harry Redknapp after Wednesday's FA

Cup tie.
"Stevenage are big and strong. Every corner, every set-play was a problem.

"They had six players in the box at times against our







Cherries can't recover from a nightmare start

CHERRIES 2011/12

UTENNI
August
6 Charlton (A) L 0-3 9 Dagenham (H, CC) W 5-0 Taylor 2, Pugh, Cooper, Feeney
13 Sheff Wed (H) W 2-0 Barrett, Arter
16 Stevenage (H) L 1-3 Arter
20 Carlisle (A)L 1-2 Arter (pen)
23 WBA (H, CC) L 1-4 Lovell
27 Walsall (H) L 0-2 20 Hereford (H, JPT) W 4-1 Stockley 2, Pugh, MacDonald
September
3 Notts County (A) L 1-3 Pugh
10 Chesterfield (H) L 0-3 13 Leyton Orient (A) W 3-1 Arter (pen), Thomas, Pugh
17 Exeter (A)
24 Hartlepool L 1-2 Gregory
October
1 Tranmere (A)
8 Rochdale
15 MK Dons (A)
22 Bury (H) L 1-3 25 Colchester (A) D 1-1 Thomas
29 Preston (A)
November
5 Scunthorpe (H)
Malone, Thomas 12 Gillingham (H, FAC) D 3-3
Purches, Zubar, Malone, 19 Wycombe(A) W 1-0 22 Gillingham (A, FACR) L 2-3
og, Arter
26 Oldham (H) D 0-0

December
10 Huddersfield (A) W 1-0
Ater
17 Sheff Utd (H) L 0-2
26 Brentford (A)
Sheringham
31 Yeovil (A)
Gregory, Fogden, Daniels
January
2 Wycombe (H) W 2-0
Thomas, Symes
7 Walsall (A) D 2-2
Symes, Fletcher
14 Notts County (H)
Thomas, Fogden
21 Tranmere W 2-1
Thomas, Pugh
28 Chesterfield (A) L 1-0
Fahm.em.
February 4 Exeter (H)
7 Exeter (H)
Tubbs, Malone
11 Hartlepool
14 Leyton Orient L 1-2
Pugh
18 RochdaleL 0-1
25 MK Dons (H) L 0-1
March
3 Charlton L 0-1
10 Sheff Wed L 0-3
17 Carlisle (H)
20 Brentford (H)
24 Oldham (A)
31 Yeovil (H)
April 7 Sheff Utd (A)
9 Huddersfield
14 Bury (A)
21 Colchester
28 Scunthorpe (A)
May
5 Preston (H)

Sheff Wed 3 Cherries 0

CHERRIES suffered a fifth consecutive defeat after conceding three times in a dreadful opening 10minute spell at Sheffield Wednesday this afternoon.

Lee Bradbury's men were left with a mountain to climb as the promotion contenders produced a blistering start to the League One clash.

Danny Batth netted first after just four minutes before the Owls profited from a Miles Addison goal to move fur-

ther ahead four minutes later.
And after Michail Antonio had made it three with an exceptional solo goal, Cherries were left with little chance of salvaging something from their trip to south Yorkshire.

The visitors were not without goalscoring opportunities of their own, with Wes Thomas hitting the woodwork and both Wes Fogden and Scott Malone going close

But, in truth, they were never going to recover after giving Wednesday a threegoal headstart.

Steven Gregory was recalled to the Cherries starting line-up in place of Harry Arter. Bidding to halt his team's recent run, Cherries boss Lee Bradbury packed his midfield and deployed Donal McDermott in an advanced role behind lone striker Thomas.

But within 10 minutes, Cherries' plans had been ruined. The game was virtually over before it had even begun.

Cherries were left reeling as

Wednesday underlined their promotion

redentials in some style.

After Darryl Flahavan had done well to palm an Antonio header wide. Cherries paid the price for failing to clear the resulting corner when Antonio crossed for Batth to fire home



WES FOGDEN

from close range. Cherries winger Malone shot narrowly wide before Mike Jones had an effort deflected off target for the hosts. However, the home fans did not have

long to wait before further increasing their advantage in the eighth minute. A Chris Lines corner caused trouble at the far post and assistant referee Nigel Smith deemed the ball to have crossed the line off the underside of the cross-bar, with Addison appearing to get the final touch.

The big task became mountainous when Wednesday made it 3-0 two min-

The lively Antonio sliced through the Cherries defence on the right wing and having surged into the penalty area, thumped a vicious shot beyond Flahavan.

Cherries finally showed signs of some attacking endeavour of their own and should have reduced the deficit in the 26th minute, but Fogden could not direct a dangerous Malone cross on tar-

Flahavan parried Lines's curling freekick before opposite number Stephen Bywater saved with his legs from Thomas, who had been sent clear by a neat Fogden pass.
Fogden then shot straight at Bywater

when well-placed and Thomas summed up Cherries' day when his low drive cannoned back off the woodwork just before the interval.

Boss Bradbury sent out the same 11 men as Cherries attempted to restore

some pride after the break.
Flahavan was initially the busier of the two goalkeepers as he made a routine save from Lines before doing brilliantly to block from Ryan Lowe after the striker had angled his run to perfec-

tion to beat the offside trap.

Bradbury introduced a second forward in the shape of Matt Tubbs on 62 minutes, with Malone the man substi-

Thomas should have ended his recent goal drought when he fired high and wide from close range. And he was replaced by Jayden Stockley almost immediately as the homegrown front-man was handed a chance to display his credentials.

Stockley was at the centre of things when Cherries came close to an 88thminute consolation.

His knock-down set up Addison but Bywater kept out his effort before Tubbs hit the rebound into the ground and over as Cherries' day ended as it had started – in disappointing fashion.

Daily Echo

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BOX OFFICE



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Cherries/Pompey Spotlight





EDDIE MITCHELL

CHERRIES chairman Eddie Mitchell received an unwanted early birthday present this week when he was fined and warned following an outburst during a live radio interview

Mitchell, who turned 58 this week, had earlier accepted an FA charge of "failing to act in the best interests of the game and/or improper language" and had requested a personal hearing

And, after going before an FA disciplinary panel in London, Cherries' co-owner was hit with a fine of £1,500 and warned as to his future con-

Mitchell was charged with misconduct in relation to comments made on the BBC Radio 5 Live 606 programme on February 25.

He had appeared on the show to explain the events surrounding an impromptu visit to the Cherries changing room by

Cherries' chief fined

Irena Demin, the wife of Maxim Demin, during the 1-0 defeat by MK Dons.

Mrs Demin, accompanied by her husband and Mitchell, is understood to have entered the dressing room at half-time and asked Lee Bradbury's players why they were not beating the Dons.

Fielding a question pitch-side, Mitchell said: "She and her husband have put a lot of energy and a lot of money into the club through me and I believe that she is entitled to express her opinion.

"Ît was half-time and I think

in the second half we played as well as we did in the first half, so it didn't affect the game. I think the people that are putting money into football are entitled to their say.

Then, an interview with the BBC's Mark Chapman, which was broadcast live on the Saturday evening, was halted after Mitchell had sworn three

Mitchell later issued a statement apologising for his behaviour, while the BBC also "apologised immediately and unreservedly to listeners for offence caused".

POMPEY 2011

August
6 Middlesbrough (A) D 2-2
Norris, Varney
9 Barnet (H, CC) L 0-1
13 Brighton (H) L 0-1
16 Reading (H)
Kitson
20 Bristol City (A) D 0-0
27 Cardiff (H) D 1-1
Kanu
September
10 West Ham (A) L 3-4
Varney, Norris, Halford
17 Hull (A) L 0-1
24 Blackpool (H) W 1-0 Huseklepp
27 Peterboro (H) L 2-3 og, Benjani
og, Benjani
October
1 Leeds (A) L 0-1
15 Barnsley (H)
Norris, Varney
18 Ipswich (A) L 0-1
22 Doncaster (H)
Varney (2), Kitson
29 Derby L 1-3
Pearce

1 Crystal Palace D 0-0

riusekiepp (z), Kitsori
19 Watford (A) L 0-2
26 Leicester (H) D 1-1
Norris
29 Birmingham (A)
December
3 Coventry (H)
Halford, Ward
10 Burnley (A) W 1-0
Norris
17 Southampton (H) D 1-1
Ward
26 Millwall (A) L 0-1
31 Leicester (A) D 1-1
Futacs

Januar y
2 Watford (H)
Futacs, Mullins
8 Chelsea (FAC, A) L 0-4
14 West Ham (H) L 0-1
21 Cardiff L 2-3
Futacs, Halford
31 Peterborough (A) W 3-1
Huseklepp (2), Pearce

February

Hull (H)	.Postponed							
1 Blackpool	D 1-1							
useklepp								
4 Ipswich	L 0-1							
8 Barnsley	L 0-2							
5 Leeds (H)	D 0-0							
March								
Middlesbrough	I 1-3							

March	
iddlesbrough L 1-3	3
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eading L 0-1)
3righton L 0-2	2
Bristol City (H)
3irmingham)
Coventry	.)
Burnley (H)
April	
outhomaton (A	١

Millwall	H)
4 Doncaster (A)
7 Crystal Palace	H)
1 Derby (H)

Pompey sunk by a Vicente double hit

THE **Seagulls** their stretched unbeaten league record in 2012 to 12 games against **Portsmouth although** a bore draw looked to be on the cards before Vicente was introduced midway through the second half.

The former Valencia winger forced a fine save from Pompey goalkeeper Jamie Ashdown before his free-kick found the bottom cor-

Vicente then put the game to bed in injury time with a low finish after being teed up by fellow substitute Kazenga LuaLua.

B e l e a g u e r e d Portsmouth overcame a nervous start and had several first-half chances but they were forced to defend for large spells in the second half and the pres-

Brighton 2 Pompey 0

sure eventually told.

The visitors have lost their last three matches and remain bottom of Championship, eight points adrift of

safety.
Will Buckley, Craig
Noone and Sam Vokes
The returned to Brighton's starting line-up, with Gai Assulin, Abdul Razak and Craig Mackail-Smith making

Portsmouth Michael Appleton also made three changes to his line-up as Ashdown, Tal Ben Haim and Marko Futacs replaced Stephen Henderson, Aaron Mokoena and Hayden Mullins.

The visitors, bottom of the Championship after being deducted 10 points last month for going into administra-tion, were firmly on the back foot in the early stages

Yet, they were the first to have a real sniff at

goal as Luke Varney curled narrowly wide of the right-hand post

from 25 yards. Scott Allan then made some room for himself just outside the area before his rasping drive was tipped round the post by Seagulls goal-keeper Peter Brezovan.

The visitors were starting to grow in stature as the half wore

on and Allan's decent delivery from a corner somehow managed to

evade everyone.
The midfielder then narrowly lobbed over from just outside the box after a poor clear-ance from Gordon Greer.

But on the stroke of half-time, the hosts nearly took an unde-served lead as an almighty scramble in Portsmouth's penalty box created by Alan Navarro's long-range shot ended with Vokes



GUS POYET

Ashdown from close

After a relatively quiet 45 minutes, the second half began in much the same way, with neither side able to stamp their authority on the clash.

However, Brighton right-back Mattock's volley from Buckley's cross produced a marvellous save from Ashdown before Pompey cleared their lines to ensure the score remained goal-

Seagulls manager Gus Poyet introduced former Spain international effort to break the dead-

And the replacement almost had an immediate impact as, after Ashley Barnes's strike was blocked by Ben Haim, Vicente's followup was Ashdown. saved by

The 30-year-old was not to be denied, though, and his strike put Brighton well on their way to three points.

After David Norris had fouled Vicente on the edge of the area, the winger picked himself up before drilling past Ashdown in the 75th minute.

Portsmouth did push forward in an attempt to force an equaliser but their failure to test Brezovan was telling and their misery was compounded in injury

LuaLua picked out Vicente from the left byline and he made no mistake from close

PLUS 70 consolation prizes of £15 each week

for Daily Echo Bournemouth 10 for Dorset Echo for Sunday Independent 10 for Brighton Argus

IND THE BALL is a test of skill and football knowledge and is open to readers of the Southampton, Bournemouth, Dorset Echos, Brighton Argus and Sunday Independent, Plymouth.

You have to use your skill and judgement to determine the exact centre of the ball.

Mark an X with a ballpoint pen on the picture where you consider that position to be-clear rubber stamps and self adhesive labels will also be accepted.

Every coupon will be carefully examined and the jackpot prize will be paid to the entrant whose cross marks the exact centre of the ball when the photograph was taken.

If the Jackpot is not won, £1,000 will be added to next week's jackpot and £50 will be added to the nearest-miss prize.

The nearest-miss prize will be paid out to the competitor whose cross is nearest to the centre of the ball when there is no jackpot winner.

When a jackpot has been won the next week's prize reverts back to £6,000 and the nearest-miss prize at

If the Jackpot is not won after 45 weeks, when standing at £50,000, three nearest miss prizes will be awarded totalling £24,000 - with a first prize of £12,000, a second prize of £8,000 and a third prize of £4,000.

The jackpot for the following week will be £26,000 with £1,000 being added each week. The nearest miss prize will be £2,000 with £50 added each week until the jackpot prize reaches £50,000.

If there is still no entry showing the exact centre of the ball, the process is repeated until there is an exact centre of the ball winner.

If there is more than one winner the jackpot will be shared and, similarly, if there is more than one runner-up the nearest miss prize will also be shared.

RESULTS



CLOSING DATE FOR POSTAL ENTRIES

Wednesday. 14 March 2012 Names of inners will be ublished on Saturday 17 March or Sunday 18 March 2012

Winners

Competition number **S09**

JACKPOT WINNER NO WINNER

CONGRATULATIONS

Mr A Merrill, Bournemouth, Dorset. who wins the Runner Up prize of £1,100

The following competitors each receive a consolation prize of £15

Mr M Baker, Southampton, Hants Mr M Barker, Gosport, Hants Mr B Chapman, Southampton, Hants Mrs D Court, Southampton, Hants Mr J Covey, Southampton, Hants Mrs L Foley, Southampton, Hants Mr M Godwin, Southampton, Hants Mrs D Goodman, Southampton, Hants Mr S Walker, Fareham, Hants Mrs M Hollins, Southampton, Hants Mr P Jaques, Eastleigh, Hants

Mrs P Kennard, Southampton, Hants Mrs M Mason, Southampton, Hants Mr R Nias, Eastleigh, Hants Mrs S Short, Romsey, Hants Mrs M Snelgrove, Lymington, Hants Miss W Taylor, Southampton, Hants Mr T Thomas, Southampton, Hants Mrs E Whitcher, Southampton, Hants Mrs E Worley, Fareham, Hants

DAYTIME

Rules

1. You are allowed a minimum of 60 crosses and a maximum of 325 per coupon. Coupons with 326 or more will be disqualified. Entries altered defaced or mutilated will be invalid. Crosses must be distinct and separate. 2. Competitors may submit as many coupons as they wish. Members of a family can send their entries in one envelope with a covering postal order or cheque. 3. No responsibility can be accepted for entries delayed, lost or mislaid. Proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery.

4. Payment may be made by postal order or cheque for the correct amount payable to Newsquest, and crossed '8. Co.' Stranps will not be accepted in payment. 5. A competitor cannot win more than one share of the prize money across all titles each week. 6.The Editor's decision on winning entry or entries and matters relating to this competition is binding in honour only. NO CORRESPONDENCE CAN BE ENTERED INTO. 7. Employees of NEWSQUEST Media Group and subsidiary companies and members of their families are not eligible to enter the competition. 8. Address entries to FTB PO Box 24. S. Prize mornies are held for and on behalf of winners. 10. Do not send cash in the post. 11. Winners will be required to participate in publicity. 12. Photocopies not accepted. 1. You are allowed a minimum of 60 crosses and a maximum of 325 per coupon. Coupons with 326 or





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Non-league Action

SYDENHAMS WESSEX PREMIER: GE HAMBLE 4 BRADING O

Brading hit by Jarvis double

TWO goals by Ashley Jarvis helped Hamble sink Brading

Kick off was delayed by ten minutes due to the late arrival of the Islanders, writes Wendy Gee.
But it was the visitors who start-

ed much the sharper with Jack Hayward and Matt Woods having beaten strikes from distance. Hamble took eight minutes to

stir on a gloriously sunny after-noon with fit-again winger Rory Williams having a close-range header tipped over for a corner.

Williams then ran onto Ashley Jarvis's knock-down but couldn't

keep his shot down.
With Hamble starting to impose their class, defender Dan Turner collided with the post as he tried to meet Williams's deep cross and then Williams unleashed a fierce low shot from the right of the area which Brading keeper Rob Hull managed to turn round the foot of his near post. Planemakers skipper James

Roden was then kicking himself for heading Williams's corner into the side netting.
With Hamble chances now com-

ing thick and fast, Roden played the ball back for Jarvis whose shot rebounded out for a corner off Brading skipper Ollie Fleming.
Hamble continued to pepper the Brading area with quality deliver-

ies – primarily from Williams – and they thought they had scored on 27 minutes when towering defender Pete Castle squeezed a downward header from a corner

inside the far post.

Brading cleared it, but those in claret and blue were convinced it had crossed the line.

Still Hamble kept plugging away with Roden testing Hull with a



THREAT: Dan Turner of Hamble challenges in the box.

full-blooded blast from distance and Lloyd Webber blazing one offtarget.
In between, Jamie Musselwhite

went desperately close to break-ing the deadlock, but his header

ing the deadlock, but his header clattered the inside of the post with the goal at his mercy.

Brading skipper Fleming was a tower of strength and his close attentions ensured Jarvis couldn't quite squeeze the ball inside the far post.

As tempers began to flare Fleming needed treatment after a challenge by Musselwhite and, on 42 minutes Brading's Jake Younie

was shown a straight red for clat-tering into Scott Gilham right in front of an incensed Hamble dug-

Gilham was OK to continue after treatment and, on 45-minutes Hamble finally got the goal their dominance deserved.

Musselwhite flicked on a header for JARVIS to whip the ball past Hull at his near-post. Half-time:

GE Hamble 1

Brading Town 0
Jarvis picked up where he had left off, forcing Hull into a save seconds after the restart.

Then Williams went on another mazy run through the Islanders defence, but his shot lacked the venom to worry the keeper.

Brading's afternoon took a turn for the worse on 55 minutes when Fleming, who had bravely battled on injured, had to make way for the Islanders' sole substitute Luke Hitchcock.

With the visitors' goal continu-ing to live a charmed life, Hull kept out Dougie Rowe at his near post and then Musselwhite put a

gift header wide after more daz-zling wing play by Williams.

Then on 65 minutes
Musselwhite did well to control
Williams's deep cross at the back
post and find Jarvis who volleyed

over an open goal.

Williams's withdrawal must have brought a sigh of relief from

have brought a sigh of relief from Brading but, without him, Hamble quickly quadrupled their lead. On 67 minutes, JARVIS punished a mistake by Andy Rann, raced on and lifted the ball over the keeper, who got his fingertips to it but couldn't keep it out.

Then, three minutes later, substitute Jamie Austen slipped a slide-rule pass through for WEBBER who finished from close range.

Webber then powered through the Brading defence before laying off a pass to Musselwhite, who drew a fine save from Hull. Next it was Rowe's turn to run at the visitors and set up substitute Jamie Barron whose shot hit the bar.

The Brading woodwork took another hammering amid a goalmouth scramble on 78 minutes

the ball eventually coming out to AUSTEN to sweep home from just outside the area and make it 4-0.

Eastleigh stalemate

BLUE SQUARE BET SOUTH Bromley 0 Eastleigh 0
FOR today's game at Bromley Eastleigh welcomed Damian Scannell and Chris Flood into their starting line-up with Daryl McMahon unavailable and Michael Green named as substitute.

Early on Scannell's cross resulted in Bradley Bubb having a shot blocked.

Andy Forbes also shot narrowly over and

on one occasion Bromley goalkeeper Joe Welch had to head the ball clear.

On the half-hour Jack Dovey had to make the first reasonable save of the game when he had to palm away Danny Waldren's shot.

Joseph-Dugois also had a cross that no-one could get on the end of and fellow Bromley forward Williams had a header saved. Half-time:

Bromley 0 Eastleigh 0

The visitors hardly tested Bromley goalkeeper Joe Welch in the second half and the few chances they had to score goal were following a cross from DannyWaldren and when a header from Joseph-Dubois hit the post.

Three minutes from time Andy Forbes was adjudged to have handled but Danny Waldren's penalty hit the underside of the bar and bounced to safety.

Moss hits a winner

EVO-STIK SOUTHERN LEAGUE BANBURY UNITED 0 TOTTON 1 TOTTON ended an unsettling week with a valuable win at Banbury which takes them back within touching distance of League leaders Brackley Town.

Banbury had the first clear sight of goal when a Dior Angus header flew just wide of the post after ten minutes and then James Bittner did well to hold onto an inswinging corner by Ben Polk. The Stags had to wait half an hour for their was headed on by Ryan Moss into the path of Charlie Knight whose shot was well blocked by home keeper Andy

Totton took the lead in first-half injury time when Nathaniel Sherborne's cross was met by the stretching Moss who poked the ball home off the post.

Chances to both sides were scarce during a dull second period but the Stags almost doubled their lead in the final minute. After Hill had whipped in a low corner Kemp was forced to clear off his line and then two minutes later a Knight charge into the area ended with him lob-bing just over the bar.

Six-a-side teams wanted

A NEW football season is just about to get under way at Crestwood School in Eastleigh.

Soccerclub run the league on Monday nights throughout the year and are on the lookout for new teams to join in the fun! If you think your team has what it takes

to win the £100 prize money then give the Soccerclub team a shout.
The league has been running for 4 years

but they are now looking to expand so others can enjoy the fun each week. Why not give Soccerclub a call, text or an

email for a starter pack and come along for a free trial to see what it's all about. You can see details at www.soccer-

clubuk.co.uk, call 07791 897 910 or email contact@soccerclubuk.co.uk

Salisbury edge Hurst salvo home

SOUTHAMPTON SENIOR CUP LYNDHURST 6 HYTHE AZTECS 1 AFTER six minutes Ash Baddams avoided the off-side trap and laid on a goal for Wade WILSON. After 15 minutes Tony Wilkinson put Wilson through to the left wing and Ash Baddams to make it 2-0. Peter Burst on his home debut curled the ball in to make it 3-0.

Just before half-time the opposing goal-keeper kicked the ball at Andy LONGLAND who rounded the keeper and scored. Baddams was then put through and wriggled round the goal-keeper to give Lyndhurst a 5-0 at half-

Hythe made it 5-1 in the second-half and LONGLAND scored again for Lvdhurst.

SALISBURY 1 STAINES TOWN 0

STAINES Town, battling to avoid relegation from the Blue Square South, gave the Whites a torrid time but had nothing to show for it as Salisbury grabbed a slender 1-0 win, their first in three games.
Staines produced all sorts of

problems for the home defence and midway through the first half Whites keeper Mark Scott was forced to make two great one-on-one saves, firstly from Andre Scarlett and then from

Richard Butler.
The Staines defence coped with what little was thrown at them but on 28 minutes Marvin Williams should have done bet-ter when he tried to dribble the ball around Staines keeper James Courtnage with the keeper grabbing the ball off his

Williams had another couple of chances but it was not until 37 minutes when Salisbury took

an undeserved lead. Ben Adelsbury chipped the ball over a static Staines defence and DAN FITCHETT beat the offside trap and calmly slotted the ball home.

On 47 minutes Scott had to save again in a one-on-one with Marc Charles-Smith before the

game degenerated, with the visitors picking up no less than seven yellow cards in the sec-ond half as the game became more and more untidy.

Salisbury rarely threatened the visitors' goal until, on 83 minutes, Charlie Losasso sent a corner to the far post where Chris Giles sent a header over

the top.
With seconds remaining Staines nearly scored a last-gasp equaliser when Adam Everitt got the ball in front of goal but was denied when Adelsbury put his body on the line and Scott smothered the loose ball.

Non-league Football



A Must-have deal FORMER Havant & Waterlooville hitman Mustafa Tiryaki has signed for Blue Square Bet Premier club Cambridge United on an emergency loan from

Tranmere Rovers.

The 24-year-old has made 14 npower League One starts for Tranmere, scoring three goals, since joining them from Havant last summer.

He has signed for Cambridge on a one-month deal as cover for the injured Michael Gash.

Tiryaki was recently linked with Turkish Süper Lig side Trabzonspor, who were rumoured to have made a £100,000 bid for the player during the January transfer window.

Badgers reshuffle

PETER Lynes has been installed as new chairman of Sydenhams One outfit Brockenhurst.

Lynes steps up from his previous role of general secretary to replace outgoing chairman Dave Stansbridge.

The Badgers' other vacancy, that of football secretary, has been filled by Mike

Although he has no previous experience in the post, Prince will have departing football secretary Paul Christopher on hand to show him the ropes.

Lynes's old posts of general secretary and membership secretary have been taken on by two of the New Forest club's seven new committee members.

Sholing kit appeal SHOLING FC are asking fans and ex-footballers to support the KitAid charity being run in conjunction with the Southern League.

KitAid is a registered charity which collects and sends no longer wanted football kits out to children and adults in deprived countires

The club are asking anyone with spare, clean kit to donate to contact Chris Lewis on 07733 392623 or at chrislewis@tiscali.co.uk for more information.

Clean kits may also be sent in a bin bag directly to KitAid, c/o Veolia Water PLC, Tamblin Way, Hatfield, Harts, AL10 9EZ. POOLE Town favourite Karim Benssaouda is in line for a return to the south coast club.

The prolific striker is back in England after spending around four years in his Algerian homeland.

Benssaouda, right, is fondly remembered by the Poole faithful, having racked up 105 goals in 113 appearances for the Tatnam outfit.

Dolphins boss Tom Killick says the Bournemouth-based forward needs

Karim in line for surprise return

time to regain his fitness but is keen to see if he can cut it at Southern League level.

"I don't think he has played com-

petitive football since he went out to Algeria, so I don't know how much of an impact he will have this season," he said.

"Without putting too much of a downer on it, his goal record has always been in the Wessex League and below, so he has got to show he is able to play at the level we are now. But he was exceptional when he was with us before and he is a very gifted player."



STADIUM DREAM: From left: Poole Town vice chair man Chira Reeves, manager town vice chair nan Chira Reeves, manage

POOLE Town have revealed they are confident of being "two-thirds" of the way towards funding their dream £2.5m stadium – despite suffering an FA setback.

Chris Reeves confirmed Dolphins could be playing in their new home by at least the 2014-15 season after making strides in their bid to raise the finance required.

Poole's vice-chairman reported that the Southern League Division 1 South & West promotion-chasers were "genuinely confident" it had covered between £1.6-1.8m of the money needed to pay for the project.

the money needed to pay for the project.
Controversially evicted from Poole
Stadium in 1994 after 61 years at Wimborne
Road, Dolphins were granted planning permission last April to press ahead with plans
for a ground at Bearwood.

Providing an update on the financing of the venture, Reeves said: "We have had a major success with a trust fund which has come up with about £500,000, specifically towards the artificial pitch.

"We are having a full-size state-of-the-art artificial training pitch adjacent to the main ground, which will be available for community use and public hire, as well as our own training purposes.

"Along the way, we have also had some disappointments.

"The money that we are likely to be able to get from the FA is going to be appreciably less than we had expected.

"The land owner is being incredibly supportive. I had a meeting with the land owner in the wake of the realisation that the money from the FA was not going to be what we had understood and I was apprehensive about that meeting, but it went extremely well

"Because there is so much happening, so many meetings and so many things in the melting pot, I can only speak in general terms

"But we remain optimistic that, at the latest, we will be starting the 2014-15 season in a new ground at Bearwood.

"I can't make any guarantees but that is

the aim and there are a lot of people working with the football club to try to pull it off.

"It is an ongoing exercise. We have got to come up with £2.5m and we are a step four Southern League football club.

"I would say that, one way or another, we have probably got 65-75 per cent of that money guaranteed."

Reeves also revealed the Tatnam-based club was in talks over the possibility of selling the stadium naming rights – but said the sensitive nature of those discussions prevented him from going into detail.

He added: "If you take our anxiety, ambition and frustration out of the equation and just look at it in hard figures, we are doing great.

"Even allowing for the fact we are twothirds there, the amount of money that is constituted by the remaining one-third is a massive amount.

massive amount.

"That is why I can't promise anybody because I can't be definite.

"Neither can I do anything other than be general"

Non-league Football





Gill accuses Rovers player of fight threat

POOLE Town's Kevin Gill claims he was confronted post-match by Paulton Rovers midfielder Adam Mahdi and invited to "finish off" their on-pitch spat.

Mahdi was sent off after lashing out at Gill following a clash between the pair towards the end of a stormy Southern One South & West encounter in Bristol last Saturday, writes NEIL PERRETT.

Gill, pictured below, later alleged Mahdi had been "waiting for me outside the clubhouse" – an accusation strenuously denied by Paulton manager Mark Harrington.

Poole substitute Steve Smith

Poole substitute Steve Smith was also red carded as goals from Michael Walker and Steve Devlin earned the Dolphins a 2-1 win over their play-off rivals.

Gill said: "During the game, we ran into each other and then, before I knew it, he had



decided to hit me. I've got a massive lump on the side of my head and I definitely felt him hit my chin as well. I felt other punches, but I don't know whether it was him or people who were trying to grab him.

"The atmosphere was a bit tense afterwards and he was waiting for me outside the clubhouse. He seemed really angry and said 'let's finish it now'. I didn't say anything, I just knot walking."

just kept walking."
Gill, who said he had no plans to pursue the matter, added: "I'm not a violent person. The referee had no reason to send me off because I didn't do anything."

Harrington, however, claimed: "Adam was elbowed off the ball by Kevin Gill. It wasn't a collision. The linesman on our side of the pitch saw it and, after the game, Poole Town players were apologising.

apologising.
"If someone came up to you in the street and elbowed you, I'm sure you would go to the police.

police.
"What he (Gill) did was cowardly. I don't condone Adam's reaction in any way, shape or form, but he was provoked."

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Non-league Football



FLASHBACK: Colin Lane during his QK days.

NEW Fawley AFC boss Colin Lane has no intention of undoing the good work started by his predecessor Paul Wiltshire.

Although the two men haven't spoken since Lane, Wiltshire's former assistant, was appointed his replacement at the Holbury helm left mostly the below left bushly with the beautiful party. helm last month, the shared footballing phi-

losophy holds strong.
"Me and Paul have the same ideas about football and we will continue to play the ball on the floor as much as we possibly can," said Lane. "I will change the formation when needed, but I don't like the long-ball game." Although Lane is new to Sydenhams

Premier management, he has served a long apprenticeship on the local scene. Years ago he played for Pirelli General in

the old Hampshire League days when former Eastleigh boss Paul Doswell and his brother Andy were there.

Lane then spent six or seven seasons at Queens Keep, running their Sunday side, and moved on to manage Bishopstoke

Lane: I won't change Fawley's style of play

Reserves and Cadnam United's first team.

Five years of youth football followed with Townhill in the Tyro League before he joined Eastleigh's youth set-up.

Eastleigh's youth set-up.

He initially worked under former Andover
boss Adie Burford, helping with the Spitfires'
South West Counties League side, and then
became assistant to Wiltshire with

became assistant to Wittshire With Eastleigh's under-16s.

A move to AFC Totton followed in February 2010 where he managed their reserves until following Wiltshire to Sydenhams Premier outfit Fawley at the end of last season. "I'm enjoying it at Fawley," said Lane. "It's a different pressure being

manager. It wasn't easy taking over from Paul, we haven't spoken since, but things happen like that.

I took seven or eight players to the club, so the continuity is there, and if Fawley want me to stay long-term I'm willing to do that.

"We've got a side with an average age of only 22 or 23 and the club want to keep the squad young and build for the next two or three years."

Having ended a run of six straight league defeats with a 1-1 draw against Fareham last month, Fawley finally got a craved-for win at home to rock-bottom Laverstock & Ford last

They fell behind on the stroke of half-time when keeper Adam Tong – an emergency dual-signing from Sholing – conceded a penalty which Craig Haywood converted.

But, with the wind to their advantage in the second half, the Oilers hit back when Ben Murphy rounded the 'keeper and fired home off the post.

That left Aaron Blaxall – switched from wide left to left-back at half-time to cover for hamstring victim Callum Earl – to net the winner after pushing up for a free kick.

Fawley, though, could not repeat that victory over Romsey on Wednesday, falling to a 2-1 home defeat.

After a goalless first half, Romsey took the lead when Ben White found Sam Wiltshire in space with a long diagonal ball and the teenage striker - son of Paul - ran in from the right to score.

White then flicked on Wiltshire's corner for Ryan Long to head in at the far post.

Matt Vining bagged the Oilers' late reply.

mission

MANAGER Graham Kemp guided Christchurch into another cup final and then insisted they were determined to do more than make up the numbers.

Priory booked a place in the Wessex League Cup showpiece with a 2-1 semi-final victory over Downton at the County Ground on Tuesday.

The Hurn Bridge outfit's success in that knockout competition came hot on the heels of them reaching the Russell-Cotes Cup final.

Despite being second best during the opening exchanges against Downton, Christchurch took a 30th-minute lead when Marc Fairbrother finished superbly following a Russell Cook run

and cross.
Striker Cook, dual registered with Wimborne Town, doubled the advantage in the 62nd minute.

Vince Rusher reduced the deficit six minutes later but Christchurch held on and will face either Bournemouth Poppies or Brockenhurst in the final

With the Russell-Cotes Cup and Wessex League Cup now within reach, boss Kemp, pictured below, is eyeing a double triumph.

He said: "Christchurch have been to the Russell-Cotes Cup final once before and that is it in their Wessex League history.

"To get to two finals is great and we are not going there to make up the numbers.

"Certainly in the Wessex League Cup, we will be playing a team of equal standard to us so, hopefully, we will give a good account of ourselves and we will look to win both of them."

Discussing Tuesday's game, Kemp added: "I was pleased with our resilience. "It showed that we had lost three

league games on the trot and they had won four in a row. Confidence was in their camp.

"In a one-off game, you don't care how you get through. Whether it is extra-time, penalties or an own goal, it is just about getting to the final

"We have got two finals to look for-ward to and that is an amazing achievement."

Kemp had words of praise for goalkeeper Jason Collins after he had stepped in as a late replacement for injured Joe Prodomo.

Collins made a fine early save and displayed good judgement under the high ball, with Kemp hailing his "outstanding" performance.



Christchurch boss Kemp is strongly opposed to the practice while Burnett, his opposite num-ber at New Milton Town, is in

favour. The pair have differing views over clubs bringing in players on youth loans and work experience

something which has become more prevalent in recent seasons. Conventional short-term loans

are not permitted in the Wessex League, although clubs can dual-register players – with both Priory and Linnets having done so this

Kemp said: "To go somewhere like AFC Bournemouth and ask for six players is lazy management in my opinion.

"We were offered players, but didn't take them. I think it devalues the Wessex League."
Burnett has used the system to

New Milton's advantage this season with Cherries trainees Alex Moth, Ryan Case and Harrison Gilkes – son of ex-Saints loanee Michael – all playing a starring role in Linnets' revival.

Burnett, who took over a struggling Linnets side last September, said: "We shipped out 18 or 19 play-ers who I didn't think were good enough for the division below, never mind our league.

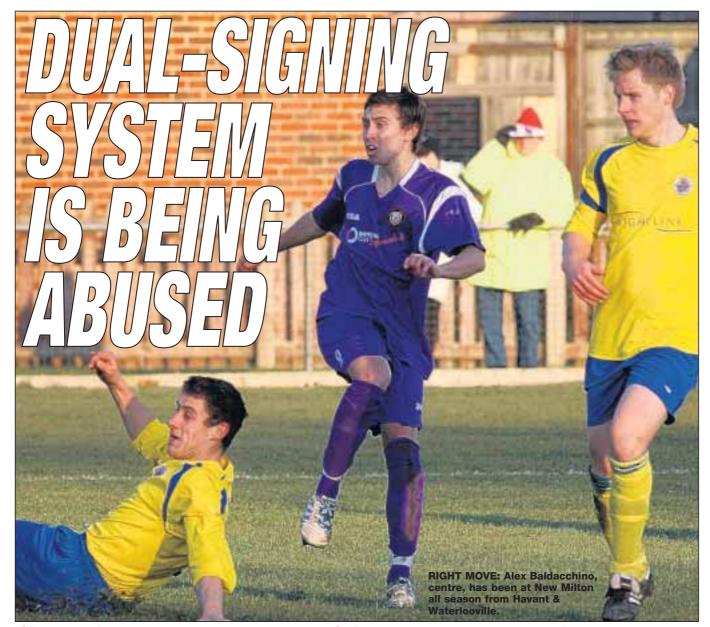
"We needed to assemble a squad very quickly and, with hardly any budget to speak of, we needed to do what was best for the club.

'Christchurch are fortunate to be able to keep some of the best players in the league without pay-



SEE BACK PAGE FOR TODAY'S NON-LEAGUE RESULTS

Non-league Football



Oilers chairman concerned by number of higher league players used in Wessex League

FAWLEY AFC chairman Kevin Mitchell is growing increasingly concerned by the number of dual-signings being used in the Sydenhams Wessex Premier.

While Wessex sides are unable to loan contracted players, the league's top division is awash with non-contract players who are dual-registered with clubs from higher up the pyramid

up the pyramid.
Fawley themselves dual-signed a young goalkeeper, Adam Tong, from Southern League outfit Sholing last week because their two regular stoppers, Jon Page and Denis Wheeler, were both unavailable to face Laverstock & Ford.

Mitchell has no problem with players – particularly young ones – dual-registering with a Sydenham Wessex outfit to help their long-term development, particularly when reserve games are

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NON-LEAGUE REPORTE

scarce at their parent club.

But what he firmly objects to is established players flitting back and forth between clubs and potentially making Wessex sides stronger for midweek games.

"Dual signings are there to be used in the right way," said Mitchell.

"If the area's bigger clubs like Eastleigh, Totton and Sholing are sending young players to Wessex clubs for the purpose of getting them experience because there are not enough Wyvern Combination League games, then that's fine.

"But if, as a Wessex club, you're bringing in five and six players, when available, just to make you that much stronger for certain matches, then that's not fair because some clubs benefit more

than others.
"As things stand clubs can sign players from a higher standard who wouldn't necessarily play for them on a Saturday but would strengthen them for midweek games

"I don't have an issue with one like (striker) Alex Baldacchino at New Milton who has been there all season from Havant & Waterlooville and Havant would only recall him if they had an injury crisis.
"But if you get a player in for the

"But if you get a player in for the occasional game from, say, Totton or Sholing, what you create is certain sides who are stronger in midweek than they are on a Saturday and I'm not sure that's how it should be

should be.

"It's like Stockport County going to Manchester United and saying can we have Giggs, Rooney and Scholes for the night if you haven't got a game."

Fawley are not having the easiest of seasons, but Mitchell believes in keeping faith with the Oilers' own squad of players rather than seeking help from friends in higher places.

"Years ago I used to play football with Sholing boss Dave Diaper, but would it be right of me to ask to dual-sign ten of his players?" he said.

"At Fawley we're struggling to score goals, so what do we do? Ask Totton if we can have two of their strikers that need a run-out? And what would we say to our own guys that we're leaving out of the team?

"I'd willingly dual-sign a player from Sholing or wherever, particularly if it was a youngster, who could come to us and play 12 games in a row, but not a star signing on lots of money who needs a midweek run-out.

week run-out.
"I don't think at this level it's how a club should be run."



Hants FA Vets Cup Colden Common and Sporting BTC do battle in the Hampshire FA Sunday Veterans Cup final at GE Hamble on Thursday (7.45pm

Hants FA girls' cups
Alton Town host two girls' cup
finals on Sunday (March 11)

finals on Sunday (March 11), starting with the U14 final at 11am between Mudeford Phoenix Girls and Southampton Saints Girls. This will be followed by the U16 final at 2pm between Warsash Wasps Girls and Boscombe Albion Girls.

Cup finals so far Last Saturday marked the beginning of the county cup final period.

The opening match of the day was between Fareham Town and Shooters in the Saturday U11 Cup final, sponsored by Soccer Tackle.

Fareham Town Youth won the match 4-2.

Last Sunday saw Compton Youth triumph 4-0 over **Bishops Waltham Youth in the** Saturday U15 Cup final, also sponsored by Soccer Tackle. Thursday night saw an entertaining Hampshire FA Midweek Floodlit Cup Final played at Westleigh Park. Havant & Waterlooville took on Aldershot Town in a competitive encounter which livened up after half-time when Aldershot defender Brad Pegg was dismissed by the referee for handball on the goal line. The match finished 3-1 to Aldershot.

FIFA ref Andre Marriner

Nearly 150 referees attended the Hampshire FA referees' "Have Your Say" event at Thornden School.

The two keynote speakers were FIFA and Premier

League referee
Andre Marriner,
pictured, and
the FA's national head of referee development, lan
Blanchard.
Marriner gave
an excellent
presentation
based on his
career, including
both the highs and

the lows, and explained the pressures on officials at the top level by inviting the audience to give their views about the situations he had faced, each captured on video.

He was then very honest and open in answering a range of questions from the audience.

HANTS FA YOUTH CUP FINAL PICTURES ON PAGE 31

Non-league Football

Football fixtures for the week ahead

Monday, March 12
BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE
Arsenal v Newcastle.
EVO-STIK SOUTHERN LEAGUE
Division One South & West:
Mangotsfield v Tiverton.
SYDENHAMS WESSEX LEAGUE
Division One: US Portsmouth v
Whitchurch.

WYVERN COMBINATION LEAGUE
Division One East: Winchester City v
Horndean.

Horndean.

Wyvern Challenge Shield
Group D: GE Hamble v AFC
Portchester.

Tuesday, March 13 UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE First Knockout Round second leg: Bayern Munich v Basle, Inter Milan v Marseille.

BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE Liverpool v Everton. npower FOOTBALL LEAGUE Championship: Cardiff v Hull, Derby v Nottm Forest, Doncaster v Reading,

Leicester v Birmingham.

League One: Colchester v Sheff Utd,
Stevenage v Oldham, Tranmere v
Preston, Yeovil v Scunthorpe.

League Two: AFC Wimbledon v
Bradford, Crawley Town v Aldershot,
Dag & Red v Northampton,

Rotherham v Torquay BLUE SQUARE BET CONFERENCE Premier: AFC Telford v Kidderminster, Cambridge Utd v Barrow, Darlington v Luton, Ebbsfleet United v Wrexham, Grimsby v York, Mansfield v Fleetwood Town, Southbort v Kettering.

BULE SQUARE BET CONFERENCE South: Hampton & Richmond v Dover, Maidenhead v Dartford, Staines v Tonbridge Angels, Truro v Boreham Wood, Woking v Dorchester.

HAMPSHIRE FA SENIOR CUP Semi-final: Havant & Waterlooville

EVO-STIK SOUTHERN LEAGUE
Premier Division: Arlessey v Hemel
Hempstead, Bedford v Leamington,
Chesham v Banbury, Stourbridge v
Eversham, Weymouth v Cirencester.
Division One South & West:
Hungerford v Cinderford (7:30),
Paulton Rovers v Sholing (7:30), Poole
v Taunton, Stourport Swifts v

SYDENHAMS WESSEX LEAGUE
SWL Cup, semi-final: Bournemouth
Poppies v Brockenhurst.
Premier Division: Brading v
Blackfield & Langley, Christchurch v
Romsey, Hayling Utd v Totton & Eling.

Wednesday, March 14
UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE
First Knockout Round second leg:
Chelsea v Napoli, Real Madrid v
CSKA Moscow

BLUE SQUARE BET CONFERENCE South: Sutton v Eastbourne. HAMPSHIRE FA SENIOR CUP Semi-final: Winchester City v

EVO-STIK SOUTHERN LEAGUE Premier Division: Frome v Oxford City.

City.
PUMA ENGINERERING HAMPSHIRE PREMIER LEAGUE
PEHP League Cup, semi-final:
Hedge End Rangers v Paulsgrove (at
Gosport Borough FC, 7.45).
WYVERN COMBINATION LEAGUE
Premier Division: Dorchester v
Newport IoW, Wimborne v Poole

Town.

Wyvern Challenge Shield:
Laverstock & Ford v Bemerton HH.

Thursday, March 15
UEFA EUROPA LEAGUE
Round of 16 second leg: Athletic
Bilbao v Man Utd, Besiktas v Atletico
Madrid, Hannover 96 v Standard
Liege, Man City v Sporting,
Olympiacos v FC Metalist Kharkiv,
PSV v Valencia, Schalke 04 v FC
Twente, Udinese v AZ.
WYVERN COMBINATION LEAGUE

WYVERN COMBINATION LEAGUI Premier Division: Bashley v Moneyfields.

Friday, March 16 SYDENHAMS WESSEX LEAGUE Premier Division: Totton & Eling v Moneyfields.

Saturday, March 17 (All FL games 3pm ko unless stated otherwise)

FA CUP Sixth round: Everton v Sunderland, Tottenham v Bolton. Barclays Premier League Fulham v Swansea, Wigan v West Brom.
npower FOOTBALL LEAGUEE
Championship: Barnsley v Readir

Championship: Barnsley v Reading, Birmingham v Middlesbrough Blackpool v Brighton, Crystal Palace v Hull, Doncaster v Derby, Ipswich v Peterborough, Leeds v West Ham, Millwall v SAINTS, Portsmouth v Bristol City, Watford v Coventry. League One: Bournemouth v Carlisle,

Bury v Wycombe, Chesterfield v Milton Keynes Dons, Colchester v Huddersfield, Exeter v Preston, Hartlepool v Stevenage, Leyton Orient v Brentford, Notts County v Sheff Wed, Rochdale v Oldham, Scunthorpe v Charlton, Sheff Utd v Tranmere, Yeovil v Walsall.

League Two: Accington Stanley v Northampton, Aldershot v Bradford, Barnet v Morecambe, Bristol Rovers AFC Wimbledon, Burton Albion v Torquay, Cheltenham v Gillingham, Crawley Town v Port Vale, Crewe v Swindon, Dag & Red v Macclesfield, Hereford v Southend, Oxford Utd v Rotherham, Plymouth v Shrewsbury.

Premier: AFC Telford v Fleetwood Town, Bath City v Lincoln City, Braintree Town v Kidderminster, Cambridge Utd v Gateshead, Darlington v Ebbsfleet United, Forest Green v Hayes & Yeading, Grimsby v Tamworth, Kettering v Alfreton Town, Mansfield v Barrow, Southport v Stockport.

South: Basingstoke v Bromley,
Dartford v Havant & Waterlooville,
Eastleigh v Dover, Farmborough v
Weston-super-Mare, Hampton &
Richmond v Maidenhead, Salisbury v
Boreham Wood, Staines v
Eastbourne, Sutton v Chelmsford,
Thurrock v Dorchester, Tonbridge
Angels v Truro, Woking v Welling.
EVO-STIK SOUTHERN LEAGUE
Premier Division: AFC Totton v
Redditch, Arlesey v Evesham, Barwell
v Cambridge City, Brackley v
Weymouth, Chesham v Bedford,
Chippenham v Hitchin, Hemel
Hempstead v Frome, Leamington v
Cirencester, St Albans v Bashley,
Stourbridge v Oxford city, Swindon
Supermarine v Banbury.
Division One South & West:

Division One South & West:
Bideford v Didcot, Bridgwater v
Poole, Clevedon v Abingdon,
Halesowen v Gosport Borough,
Hungerford v Taunton, Paulton
Rovers v North Leigh, Sholing v
Bishops Cleeve, Thatcham v
Cinderford, Wimborne v Stourport
Yate v Tiverton.

Yate v Irverton.

SYDENHAMS WESSEX LEAGUE

Premier Division: Blackfield &

Langley v Christchurch, Brading v

Bemerton HH, Hamworthy v Fawley,

Hayling Utd v Bournemouth Poppies,

Horndean v Romsey, Laverstock &

Ford v GE Hamble, Lymington Town v

Downton, New Milton v Alresford,

Newport IoW v Alton, Winchester City

V Fareham.

v Farenam.

Division One: Amesbury v
Stockbridge, East Cowes v AFC
Portchester, Fleet Spurs v Pewsey
Vale, Hythe & Dibden v Andover New
Street, Petersfield v Tadley, Ringwood v
Cowes Sports, US Portsmouth v
Team Solent, Verwood v Whitchurch.
PUMA ENGINEERING HAMPSHIRE
PREMIER I FAGUIF

Division One: AFC Aldermaston v Fleetlands, Bournemouth Sports v AFC Stoneham, Clanfield v Sporting BW, Hamble Club v Colden Common, Hedge End Rangers v Liss Athletic, Liphook Utd v QK Southampton, Paulsgrove v Otterbourne, University of Portsmouth v Locks Heath. Combination: AFC Stoneham v Winchester Castle, Colden Common v Hamble Club, Liss Athletic v Sporting BW, Locks Heath v Fleetlands, Otterbourne v Clanfield, Overton v

MAGNATA CARE HAMPSHIRE LEAGUE 2004 Botley Village v Durley Fair Oak v Crusaders, Horndean Utd v Four Marks, Michelmersh & Timsbury v Mottisfont, Portsmouth RN v Broughton. Ubdam v Andover Lions.

WYVERN COMBINATION LEAGUE
Wyvern League Cup, semi-final:
AFC Portchester v AFC Totton.
Premier Division: Bemerton HH v
Gosport Borough, Christchurch v
Newport IoW.
Division One East: Fareham Town v

Division One East: Fareham Town v Horndean, Tadley Calleva v Hayling Utd, Whitchurch v Petersfield. Division One West: Downton v Laverstock & Ford, Fawley v Hythe & Dibden, Romsey v East Cowes Vics.



EASTLEIGH'S Silverlake Stadium home will be in safe hands following the announcement of yet another sponsorship deal by the ambitious Blue Square Bet South club.

Senator Security South Limited, one of Southampton's leading security providers, are the latest corporate sponsors to climb on board with the Spitfires.

Not only will the agreement see Senator Security advertise within the Silverlake (pictured above), but they will also provide nightly patrols of the Stoneham Lane ground.

Mark Jewell, Eastleigh's new commercial manager, said: "This is a deal that continues to demonstrate businesses

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NON-LEAGUE REPORTER

locally embracing the new Eastleigh era. Matt (managing director Matt Brown) and the people at Senator have been fantastic.

"Having agreed the partnership, I mentioned the recent break-in to Matt in passing. He instantly agreed nightly patrols of the ground free to the club, over and above the sponsorship arrangement, which sums up their commitment"

As an added bonus for the Spitfires, current sponsors A&A Business Supplies Ltd, have substantially

increased their current deal. The Southampton-based stationers have agreed that supporters, players and staff who arrange stationery orders through A&A will see a healthy proportion of their order returned to the football club.

Jewell is thoroughly enjoying his role at the club and said: "I still can't get over how well we are being received in these challenging economic times. "People see the Executive Club as a

"People see the Executive Club as a great networking opportunity and we are seeing lots of interest as it represents excellent value for money with some entertaining football thrown in.

"We still have some great opportunities to advertise within the ground and would welcome any interested parties to contact me (023 8061 3361)."

Monty joins the 'Wood

GRAEME Montgomery has joined Eastleigh's Blue Square Bet South rivals Boreham Wood following his release from the Silverlake Stadium.

The 24-year-old winger was signed up in time to make his Wood debut last Saturday in their 4-2 win over Havant & Waterlooville at Westleigh Park.

Montgomery joined Eastleigh on a permanent deal in December after a successful three-month loan deal from Aldershot Town.

But following the arrival of Bridle Insurance as majority shareholders, manager lan Baird's spending power was significantly boosted and the wide man was downgraded to a substitute's role as new signings arrived.

Baird did not intend to offer Montgomery a contract this summer and felt it was better to release him now and free up space on the bench for youngsters like Sam Wilson.

Montgomery made an immediate impact for his new club, setting up Boreham Wood's second goal at Havant.
He surged forward and unleashed a cracking shot which Hawke

unleashed a
cracking shot
which Hawks
keeper Lyall
Beazley
somehow
managed
to save,
only for
Mauro
Vilhete to
tap in the
rebound.
It was a

less successful afternoon for another Eastleigh old boy Chris Holland.

The central defender had a wretched game for Havant, culminating in a clumsy challenge which led to Wood's Mario Noto making it 4-2 from the penalty spot.

Two more exSpitfires haunted the Hawks on Tuesday as they stumbled to yet another defeat, 2-0 at Sutton United. Sutton, man-

aged by former Eastleigh boss Paul Doswell, took a seventh-minute lead through former Spitfire Tony Taggart before Leroy Griffiths – like Taggart, an ex-Hawk – doubled the Us' advantage.

Sutton ended the game with ten men after Craig Braham-Barrett, their recent signing from Havant, had picked up a second yellow.

The Hawks' defeat – their sixth in seven games – left Shaun Gale's men hovering precariously just two points above the relegation zone. "Our defending is a major

"Our defending is a major issue. We seem to get punished for every mistake and it's just going on and on," sighed Gale. "We have to stop the rot.

"Opponents are not having to work hard to score against us and we keep gifting goals away."

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Non-league Football

Diaper: Sugar daddies only lead to trouble

events at AFC Totton this week should serve as a warning against the dangers of "sugar daddies" getting involved with non-League clubs.

While the Sholing boss, pictured right, would not turn his back on major investment coming at Portsmouth Road, he pas-sionately believes that the long-term future of a football club is more important than going down a "quick-fix" route to success.

Diaper's comments came in the wake of Jim Fallon's very public announcement that he had withdrawn his five-figure sponsorship at Totton because he had "very serious concerns" about the way elected members of the executive committee were running the club. He accused them of having done "nothing whatsoever in terms of sustaining a fiscal prudent

commercial club operation" and of being "nodding dogs – all talk and no action."

Fallon arrived on the Testwood Stadium scene last September, having personally donated £10,000 to become first-team shirt sponsor.
Since November his

Landford-based company, Beaumont Water Heaters Limited, had additionally funded the club to the tune of £2,400 a week, much of which went towards boosting Stuart Ritchie's playing squad in the quest for pro-motion to the Blue Square

been budgeted to cover the rest of this season and Fallon was prepared to plough in another £50,000 for 2012/13 rather than renew his executive box at

St Mary's.

Beaumont's money has funded the arrival of several new players at Totton, notably on-loan Forest Green Rovers goalkeeper James Bittner and ex-Dorchester frontman Ryan Moss, and also paid for coach

travel and pre-match meals for the team. Diaper, who

expressed surprise that expressed surprise that such sums of money had been made public, feels sympathy for the stalwarts at AFC Totton who have worked long and hard – and totally unpaid – to assist

totally unpaid – to assist the club's impressive rise from the Wessex League to the upper reaches of the Southern Premier Division. He said: "Sugar daddies come and go, but there are people who have been with clubs like Totton for a hell of a long time and it's not about a quick fix, it's about the long-term future of the the long-term future of the whole club.

"He (Jim Fallon) could go in to Totton, taking businessmen with him, but if they decide one day that they've had enough, the club plummets.

"So who could blame an

executive committee for asking themselves if they're willing to give up all the history of the club and all the work they've put in down

the years for someone to

just come in and take over?
"For me it's not about a
quick fix, it's about longevity and making sure that Sholing Football Club is still around at whatever level in

ten years' time.
"Of course I'd listen if someone knocked at our someone knocked at our door and said they were willing to put so much into the club. But the question I would ask is 'what do you really want from the club?'

"My fear would be that

they would either come in wanting total control, bring-ing businessmen with them who don't really care about the club. Or it would just be to enhance their ego and get their name and the name of their company a higher profile.
"I think clubs should

beware of sugar daddies.

"Unless a club's got
something solid in place,
they could be heading for a
massive fall."

NASP NEST TO HORNET'S NEST

Wendy Gee

SEAN Whelan must have wondered what he had walked into when he was unveiled as new **AFC Totton chairman last** weekend.

Before he had even had a chance to get his feet under the table, the former Eastleigh FC shirt sponsor and tannoy announcer was coping with the news that the Stags' main sponsor Jim Fallon had withdrawn his funding because of "very serious concerns" over how the club was being run.

Fortunately for Totton, Whelan is not squeamish when it comes to cleaning up messy situations.

In his day job, he holds the unusual distinction of having exterminated the inhabitants of Britain's biggest ever wasp nest!

Through his company, Whelan Pest Prevention, he hit national headlines by tackling the 6ft by 5ft monster, housing up to half a million wasps, in the attic of a Southampton pub in 2010.

Whelan said at the time that disposing of the wasps was "a bit scary, mesmerising and very challenging'

Now, having taken over as Totton chairman following Phil Shephard's (pictured) departure last month, he is hoping to do a similarly effective job for the Stags

Born on Merseyside in 1965, Whelan moved to the Southampton area in 1968 when his father, a merchant seaman and massive Everton fan, was transferred down south with the Cunard Steamship Company. Ten years later his parents bought a hotel in

Whelan went to school in Totton and played local football for many years before he too went away to

into corporate sales and senior management within the hygiene and pest control industries and started up his own business in 1999.

Introducing himself to Totton fans, Whelan said: "I consider it an honour and a privilege to have been appointed chairman of AFC Totton. "I have supported local football

for many years after I had to stop playing through injury at the age of 31."

While Whelan is new to the Testwood Stadium, for the last two years he has been a familiar face - and, more importantly, voice - as stadium announcer with Blue Square Bet South outfit Eastleigh.

"I was asked to fill in at an Eastleigh match for a very good friend, Denis Bundy, who, after many years on the micro-phone decided to move on," he

explained.
"I ran the microphone for two seasons and during this time Whelan On returning to dry land he got Pest Prevention were sponsors.

And this year we sponsored the first-team shirts up until the new investors (Bridle Insurance) joined

the club.
"I also got involved in encouraging new sponsors and became an integral part of the club in many areas behind the scenes."

Netley-based Whelan, whose two children both went to school in Totton, has certainly done his homework on the Stags.

"I have visited the Testwood Stadium many times and know that AFC Totton is steeped in history that is founded on playing the right type of football supported by great supporters of Totton," he said.

love my football and believe that the supporters are the most important people in any football club. Whilst the club has enjoyed outstanding success on and off the field, I hope to get involved with achieving the short, medium and long-term goals of the club.

"I also look forward to working with everyone at the football club and contributing to its continued

Charles free to stay on at Boro

AFC TOTTON boss Stuart Ritchie will be giving the okay for striker Michael Charles to stay permanently at Blue Square Bet South outfit Farnborough when his initial month's loan is up.

That will come as music to the ears of Borough manager Spencer Day who says that Charles would "one disappointed player" if he did not remain at Cherrywood Road.

Charles has been a revelation since returning to his hometown club on loan from Totton and played an important part in bringing about Eastleigh's 1-0 downfall at the Silverlake Stadium last

Asked after the game if

Farnborough had plans to make Charles a permanent fixture, Day said: "The original deal was for us to sign him per-manently, but at the last minute it was turned into a

"Put it this wav. Totton are going to have one very disap-



CHARLES

pointed player if they want him back and, personally, I always say that I'd never keep a player who's not happy.

"I'll be making every effort to keep him.'

Phillip Page was the goalscoring hero as Farnborough ended Eastleigh's run of 11 league games without defeat last Saturday. He sent on-loan Saints keeper Jack Dovey the wrong way from the spot on 57 minutes following Mitchell Thomas's tug on Charles.

Hailing it Borough's "best result of the season", Day described it as 'a massive statement of intent from the dressing room" following the bombshell news that that the club faced a five-point deduction for financial irregularities.
"To come here and beat a side

with the best home record in the league, unbeaten here since September, is a massive statement by everybody involved at the club,'

Page was on target again on Tuesday as Day's men nicked a late 1-0 home win over Tommy Widdrington's ten-man Eastbourne Borough, who had Carl Rook red-carded five minutes after half-time.

Farnborough welcomed another of their 'old boys' back this week when Steve Laidler returned on non-contract forms.

The experienced midfielder, who has also played for Basingstoke Town, is back from a year in Australia.

SEE MONDAY'S ECHO FOR MORE NON-LEAGUE NEWS

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WESSEX LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION TOP SCORERS

2005/06
1 Justin Bennett (Andover) 52 2 Jamie Musselwhite (Winchester) 35 3 Ian Mancey (Winchester City) 29 4 Leigh Phillips (Poole Town) 26 5 Scott Joyce (Bournemouth) 25 6 Neil Scammell (Gosport Borough) 25 7 Dean Cole (GE Hamble) 22 8 Stuart Findlay (Bernerton) 22 9 Mark Osman (AFC Totton) 22 10 Michael Spinney (VT FC) 22
2006/07
1 Scott Joyce (Wimborne Town) 42 2 Nathaniel Sherborne (Alton Town) 30 3 David Greening (Brading/Totton) 29 4 Jamie Laidlaw Fareham Town .25 5 Gary Austin (Horndean) .23 6 Warren Hunt (Fareham Town) .21 7 Leigh Phillips (Bournemouth) .20 8 Ben Osborne (Brockenhurst) .19 9 Mark Osman (AFC Totton) .19 10 Abdoulie N'Doye (Moneyfields) .18
2007/08
1 Scott Joyce (Wimborne) .41 2 Graham Lindsey (Horndean) .35 3 Steven Smith (Poole Town) .30 4 James Stokoe (Wimborne) .24 5 Nathaniel Sherborne (AFC Totton) .23 6 Daniel Sullivan (Bemerton) .22 7 Gary Austin (Fareham Town) .22 8 David Greening (Brading Town) .22 9 Tyrone Bowers (VT FC) .21 10 Paul Traies (Lymington Town) .20
2008/09
1 Warren Hunt (VT FC) 39 2 Charles Austin (Poole Town) 37 3 Jamie Laidlaw (Moneyfields) 30 4 Kevin Gibbens (VT FC) 29 5 Steven Smith (Poole Town) 29 6 David Greening (Brading) 28 7 Paul Sales (VT FC) 28 8 Scott Joyce (Wimborne) 27 9 Warren Byerley (Hamworthy Utd) 25 10 Graham Lindsey (Hayling) 22
2009/10
1 Graham Lindsey (Fareham) 29 2 Steven Smith Poole Town 29 3 Ben Osborne (Christchurch) 27 4 Russell Cook (Poole Town) 24 5 Scott Joyce (Wimborne) 23 6 Thomas Jeffes (Christchurch) 21 7 Jack Slade Bemerton 19 8 Stuart Brown (Poole Town) 18 9 Tom Clarke Wimborne) 17 10 Lee Chudy (Wimborne/Lav) 16
2010/11
1 Steven Smith (Poole)
1 James White (Winchester City)

9 Craig Feeney (Totton & Eling) 20 10 Nicholas Turpin (Downton) 20

Non-league Football



NON-LEAGUE STORY TO TELL? CALL WENDY GEE ON 02

BOWERS: WHITE'S NO MATCH FOR **DANNY BOWERS**

GE'S 'BATMAN & ROBIN'

Wendy Gee

GE HAMBLE co-boss Danny Bowers says he wouldn't swop his 'Batman & Robin' partnership of **Jamie Ashley** Musselwhite and Jarvis for Winchester's scoring sensation Jamie White.

With White having already smashed through the 40-goal barrier in just 24 Sydenhams Wessex appearances this season, Bowers admits the ex-Saints striker is a 'league phenomenon" the like of which has not been since the free scoring days of Andy Forbes and Justin Bennett.

Jamie White's league appear-

ances for Winchester 2011/12

Hamble (A)

Bemerton (A)

Blackfield (H)

Christchurch (H)

Bournemouth (H)

Hayling (A)

Alresford (A)

Totton & Eling (A)

Fawley H)

Romsey (H)

Moneyfields (H)

Hamworth (A)

Lymington (H)

Bemerton (H)

Horndean (A)

Downton (A)

Newport (A)

Downton (H)

Lymington (H)

Newport (H)

New Milton (H)

averstock (H)

Bournemouth (A)

Alton (H)

GIs

0

2

3

2

3

1

3

2

0

1

1

1

3

W 3-2

L 1-3

W 6-0

W 4-2

W 5-1

W 9-0

W 3-0

W 4-0

W 2-0

D 3-3

W 5-2

W 2-0

W 4-0

W 3-2

D 2-2

W 1-0

W 2-0

W 3-0

W 6-1

W 3-1

W 6-2

W 5-1

But when it comes to Wessex partnerships, reckons the goal-scoring Bowers Planemakers' dynamic duo of Musselwhite and Jarvis are up there with the very best.

Both were on target in last Saturday's 2-0 victory at Christchurch which kept Hamble on course to finish third - or even second - in their most successful ever Wessex season.

The sharp-shooting twosome have now notched 55 goals between them in all competitions – the nimble Jarvis leading the way with 28, just one ahead of powerhouse targetman Musselwhite.

Asked who he would plump for out of White and the Planemakers' prolific pairing, Bowers said: "Honestly? I'd go for my two.

'Jamie White is far and away the best striker and goalscorer in this league but, with all due respect to Jamie, I don't know the lad, whereas I know exactly what I've got with Musselwhite and

'Jamie White is a phenomenon in this league with the amount of goals he's scored and I'm sure he'll go on and have another crack at pro football.

'Fair play to Paul McCarthy and Guy Butters (Winchester's owner and manager) for giving him the opportunity and getting him playing so well.

"After all the injuries he's had, he deserves another chance and I really hope he goes on and has a great career.

then I look Musselwhite and Jarvis and I've got two fantastic lads here who



BATMAN: AKA Jamie Musselwhite.

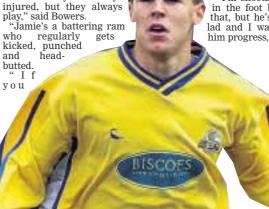
each get 30 goals a season.

"They did it last year too, which is why Paul McCarthy chased Jamie (Musselwhite) for most of last season and several other clubs have been chasing Ashley.

Their partnership is formidable, quite outstanding. They complement each other so well and the number of assists between them must be massive. They always seem to play a part in each other's goals.

Musselwhite Although Jarvis invariably reach the same finishing point – i.e. the ball in the back of the net – they have vastly different ways of get-

ting there.
"Jamie and (midfielder) Lloyd Webber are like robots. They're always injured, but they always play," said Bowers



pick up the No9 shirt after a match, it's filthy, knackered and ripped.

But when you pick up the No7 shirt, it's nicely crisp and clean. Ashley comes off the pitch as if he's just stepped out of the show-

"But the pair of them play so well for each other. I've lost count of the number of times Ashley's made room for Jamie to score.

The emergence of ex-Brighton trainee Jarvis as a proven outand-out striker is particularly pleasing for Bowers.

"Whereas Muss is an established, well-known player on the local non-League scene, Ashley's tended to start up front at his previous clubs and then been pushed out to the right. He's never been given a proper opportunity to show what he can do," said the

boss.
"There was a time when he went through a barren patch at our place and people said he should be playing on the wing. But no, Ashley's a centre forward and he's proved that now. You don't score 30 goals a season if vou're not.

Much as Bowers would love to keep the partnership he dubs 'Batman & Robin' together, part of him wants to see 23-yearold Jarvis move on.

"I'm shooting myself in the foot by saying that, but he's a young lad and I want to see him progress," he said.

ROBIN: AKA

Ashlev

Jarvis.

NON-LEAGUE STANDINGS

Blue Square Bet Conference South

Division One South & West P W

W D A Pts

Division One

Standings up to and including Friday,

23 8042 4483 OR EMAIL wendy.gee@dailyecho.co.uk

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Non-league Football

LEFT AND BELOW: Action from the Southampton & District FA A Cup final between Riverside (red) v FC Wellington.

Echo pictures by Paul Collins Order nos:14038688 & 14038720

DREW SMITH LEAGUE

SENIOR	PREMIER
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SENIOR PREMIER							
	Ρ	W	D	L	F	Α	Pts
Bush Hill	15	14	0	1	64	20	42
Soton Uni	16	10	2	4	36	18	32
Forest Town	16	10	1	5	45	25	31
Nursling	15	9	2	4	31	24	29
AFC Hiltingbury	17	8	2	7	49	45	26
Comrades	13	8	1	4	34	28	25
Cutbush	16	4	2	10	28	63	14
London Airways	15	4	1	10	22	38	13
Bishopstoke	16	3	2	11	29	40	11
BTC Soton	17	1	1	15	13	50	4
SENIOR 1							
Netley CS Res	16	14	2	0	59	10	44
Cadnam United	14	11	2	1	63	18	35
Thornhill H K	13	10	1	2	61	27	31
Hythe Aztecs	17	9	2	6	59	47	29
White Horse NM	17	8	1	8	53	37	25
Hedge End Town	17	7	3	7	46	51	24
Lyndhurst	13	7	2	4	33	22	23
Durley Res	16	5	1	10	35	68	16
Comrades Res	17	4	3	10	31	54	15
Burridge AFC	13	3	3	7	32	33	12
BTC Soton Res	14	2	1	11	12	58	7
Michelmersh &T R	17	1	1	15	16	75	4
JUNIOR 1							
South City	15	8	3	4	36	25	27
AFC Grains	15	7	5	3	37	22	26
Park Sports	13	7	3	3	39	24	24
Wombles	13	6	6	1	28	19	24
East Boldre	15	6	3	6	34	32	21
Soton Energy	13	5	5	3	44	37	20
Veracity Vipers	12	5	3	4	33	27	18
Compton	14	4	4	6	40	40	16
Braishfield	12	3	2	.7	19	25	11
Otterbourne A	14	0	0	14	9	68	0
JUNIOR 2				_			
QK Soton A	14	11	1	2	43	13	34
HE Rang Res	11	8	2	1	21	5	26
Langley Manor	12	6	2	4	38	17	20
Chamberlayne	15	6	2	7	29	33	20
Solent Saints	14	5	2	7	31	37	17
Questmap	13	4	3	6	35	33	15
Inmar	11	4	1	6	21	34	13
Hamble United	12	3	3	6	20	26	12
Wellow	12	2	0	10	18	58	6

12 6 2 4 38 17 15 6 2 7 29 33 14 5 2 7 31 37 13 4 3 6 35 33 11 4 1 6 21 34 12 3 3 6 20 26 12 2 0 10 18 58 Solent Saints Questmap Hamble United Wellow JUNIOR 3 Compton Res Ch Fd Rang Forest Town Res

Chandlers Ford Botley Res G Companions Priory Rovers Brigadier Gq New Forest Cricketer F Oak JUNIOR 5 Horton Heath Botley Village A *Ritterne Pk H 17 10 3 4 55 36 15 10 1 4 54 30 14 10 2 2 49 19 16 9 0 7 58 33 14 9 1 4 59 34 17 5 5 7 27 48 17 5 5 4 6 34 42 16 2 1 13 18 60 15 1 3 11 19 70 *Bitterne Pk H Upham Res *Stanton FC Hamble Res Ath Romsey Freemantle London A Res Riverside Res * 3pts deducted JUNIOR 6

15 13 1 1 72 24 40 16 12 1 3 69 30 37 15 10 1 4 45 36 31 14 8 2 4 49 30 26 16 8 2 6 49 33 26 15 7 2 6 39 27 23 14 5 3 6 25 29 18 17 5 3 9 45 54 18 16 4 1 11 33 58 13 14 2 1 11 31 61 7 16 1 1 14 17 92 4 New Forest Res S G Sports Ampthill Athletic Burridge Village Sp Wessex AFC Station Braishfield Res AFC Soton Mechanics M & T A VETERANS A

Questmap Vets Nursling Vets Sporting BTC A Sholing A G E Aviation A Redlynch Utd QK Soton Colden Com BTC Vets Old Taunton VETERANS B Bishops WD Locks Heath RS Wincheste



CRAIG Phillips's goal at the beginning of the second half was enough to earn Riverside victory over FC Wellington in the final of the Southampton & District

Football Association A Cup final. Dean Guyatt's late double save prevented extra time as Wellington battled hard for an equaliser at Test Park.







CUP WINNERS: Riverside.





Order no: 14038729

TITLE RECORD

Fourth consecutive championship for Bush Hill

Division title for a record fourth consecutive season with a 5-2 victory over London Airways.

It wasn't all plain sailing though as Clem Lopez gave London Airways an early lead. Braces from James Lavender and Rich Patterson put in command and John Dinnematin sealed victory with a penalty. Haime Berrocal added a second for London Airways but there was no denying the champs, writes ROD SUTHERLAND.

Bush Hill are also eyeing further silverware in the Southampton &

BUSH Hill clinched the Premier DREW SMITH GROUP FOOTBALL LEAGUE

They play AFC Stoneham in the showpiece final at St Mary's Stadium after seeing off the chal-lenge of Senior 1 leaders Netley Central Sports 3-1.

Dan Wakefield opened the scoring with a well placed long shot. Nick Kesby added a second from the tightest of angles but the pick of the goals was the third to put Bush 3-0 up; James Lavender and Nick Kesby combined with some delightful interplay before lifting the ball through for Rich Patterson to neatly touch the ball past the Netley keep-

Netley did pull one back late on as Ricky Bull beat the Bush Hill offside trap but it was too little too late.

Comrades, who had a slim mathematical chance of stopping Bush Hill before last weekend's fixtures, did their bit with a 4-2 win at Hiltingbury as Jamie Wilson scored

Rvan Betteridge hit two as Forest Town came from behind to defeat Cutbush 5-2

The big three in Senior 1 all won but Netley CS were made to fight all the way with Sam Schwodler netting for Burridge but Simon Quirk and

Grant Patterson keeping Netley in pole position.

Cadnam defeated Durley Reserves 3-1, with Tom Glasspool grabbing a brace, but the biggest winners were Thornhill HK who thumped bottom team Michelmersh & Timsbury 5-0 including a pair each from Daryl Hobbs and Tom Cummings.

Lyndhurst needed a late Wade Wilson strike to defeat BTC Soton Reserves, while Hedge End Town recovered from 2-0 down to draw 3-3 with Hythe Aztecs.

Comrades Reserves recovered from 2-0 down to win 3-2 at White Horse and increase their survival hopes as Will Philips scored twice.

REW SMITH RESULTS AND SCORERS APPEAR IN MONDAY'S ECHO

Non-league Football

TIDY FINISH FROM WOMBLES

THE Drew Smith Junior 1 title race took another twist as favourites Park Sports were beaten 2-1 by **Wombles – all the goals coming in** the last 20 minutes.

South City remain top after a 4-1 defeat of East Boldre, Rocky Moore on

Second-placed AFC Grains twice came from behind to draw with Veracity Vipers – centre half Steve Hodder getting both goals.

Soton Energy kept their chances alive with a 4-1 victory over Compton, Ben Crook nicking two goals.

In Junior 2, Hedge End Rangers Reserves narrowed the gap on leaders QK Soton thanks to a single Matt

Hawkes goal against Solent Saints. Wellow thumped Inmar 5-0 courtesy of two from Adam McGimpsey plus Darren Plunkett, Andy Gradidge and Shane Yeates. Hamble United recovered a two-goal deficit to deny Questmap in a 2-2 draw. In Junior 3 there were defeats for two

big guns. Forest Town Reserves were shocked 6-1 by Infinity Reserves, Joel Waters and Kiran Booluck with a pair apiece. Leaders Compton Reserves came a cropper, 3-1, at cup heroes Riverside – super sub Craig Proudley coming off the bench to score two late

Warsash Wasps were 4-0 victors over Eastleigh, Cricketers Bricklayers put the relegation jitters up AFC Gordons with a 3-2 win.

There were goals galore in Junior 4 as Harefield hit Priory Rovers for a dozen, including a four-goal haul from Zac Glasspool and two each for Ryan Glasspool, Tom Hawkins and Jamie Roberts. ÁFC Gulf Western hit Botley Village Reserves for six, Jordan Penfold hitting a double.

Leaders West Totton won 4-1 with Mark Cumber scoring all four against Chandlers Ford. Good Companions inflicted a 3-0 defeat on New Forest with Barry Anderson scoring two.

Matt Bunday of Athletico Romsey missed a penalty against Junior 5 leaders Bitterne Park Hotel and was then grateful to brother Nathan who saved a penalty to deny the leaders all the points with a 1-1 draw - Dan Griffiths netting Athletico's equaliser.

Stanton also failed to capitalise as they went down 2-1 to early season leaders Horton Heath who returned to the top as a result. Gary Whittle's double failed to be enough as Riverside Reserves went down 4-2 to Upham

New Forest Reserves still lead the way in Junior 6 as two Lee McStay goals helped secure a 4-1 win at Braishfield Reserves. Second-placed SG Sports demolished AFC Soton 6-1 with Jimmy Greenough netting five.

Coxford Jets warmed up for their cup semi-final today with a 1-0 win at AFC Station courtesy of Billy Robinson. Ampthill remain on their coattails after a 4-0 verdict over Sporting Wessex. Burridge Village edged Mechanics 2-1.

CUP FINAL SCHEDULE

DREW SMITH LEAGUE Wednesday, March 28: Trophyman Senior League Cup final -Lyndhurst v Cadnam United at the Silverlake Stadium (7.30pm). Wednesday, April 4: Eastleigh RA Vets

League Cup final Sporting BTC v Sholing at Aerostructures (7.30pm).

Monday, April 9 (bank holiday): Drew Smith Group Football League Festival of Finals at

HAMPSHIRE FA CUPS March 15: Veterans Cup final - Colden Common v Sporting BTC at Hamble Aerostructures (7.45pm). April 28: Junior A Cup final - FC Wellington v Hook at Winklebury (2.30pm).

Friday, May 11: Intermediate Cup final – Colden Common v AFC Portchester Reserves or Wimborne Town Reserves at Aldershot

Town (7.45pm). **SOUTHAMPTON &** DISTRICT FA

Thursday, March 15: Saturday Junior B Cup final: Harefield v West Totton at Test Park (Wessex pitch, 7.30pm). Thursday, March 22: Women's Challenge Cup Final -Southampton Saints Ladies FC v QK Southampton FC at Romsey Town FC(7.30pm).

Thursday, April 12:
Saturday Veteran's Cupfinal – Sporting BTC v Nursling at Aerostructures' ground (7.30pm).

Sunday Junior A Cup final – Roll Call v Brookhill Saints -Aerostructures Aerostructures (10.30am).
Sunday Junior B Cup final – Bishops Blaize v AFC Toynbee at Aerostructures (2.30pm). Thursday, April 19: Sunday Senior Cup final – Knighton Arms v Avenue at Sholing FC (7.30pm).

Sunday, April 15:

Tuesday, May 15: Saturday Senior Cup final - Netley Central Sports or Bush Hill v AFC Stoneham at St Mary's Stadium



SPORTING BTC VETS: Hampshire FA Veterans Cup finalists.

■ TWO Southampton & District FA finals take place on Thursday. Sporting BTC take on Colden

Common in the Hampshire FA Veterans Cup final at GE Hamble



HAREFIELD: Southampton & District FA B Cup finalists.



COLDEN COMMON VETS: Hampshire FA Veterans Cup finalists.

The teams recently met in the League Cup semi, Sporting going through via penalties after a 1-1 draw in normal time.

Drew Smith League Junior 4 rivals Harefield and West Totton face off in the B Cup at Test Park (7.30pm).



WEST TOTTON: Southampton & District FA B Cup finalists.

THE Eastleigh RA Veterans Cup final will be between Sporting BTC and Sholing.

Sporting reached their third cup final of the season and are still on for the quadruple as the A Division is not beyond them. Their semi-final opponents were Colden Common, who they also meet in the final of the HFA Vets final. The game was a close affair with penalties required to see Sporting home after a 1-1 draw.

Martin Chamberlain hit four for Sholing as they defeated Locksheath 6-2, Jez French's double making up

Nursling secured a 2-0 win against GE Aviation to keep the heat on A Division leaders Questmap; Darren Colvin and Dave Ashley were their marksmen. QK Soton and Redlynch

In the B Division, Bishop's Waltham Dynamo returned to the top of the

table with a narrow 3-2 defeat of Northend, Key Alden's double helped Hedge End Rangers on their way to a 3-1 verdict over AFC Stoneham. The battle of Langley ended all square with John Richardson scoring for Manor and Darren Clark for Tavern.

Michelmersh & Timsbury defeated Priory 3-0 in the C Division, while GE Aviation B and Royal Mail both recorded 3-1 victories over Langley Tavern B and Redbridge OB respectively.

In the Eastleigh RA Vets Supp Cup, a goal from Paul Goodenough proved to be good enough to see Rising Sun Winchester (last season's runners-up) defeat Sporting BTC B 1-0.

Frank Cox and Stu Lappage took Baddesley Park to their first semi-final with a 2-1 win at Winchester OB. Hythe Aztecs were taken to penalties by Albion before emerging 4-1 shoot-out winners. Aztecs' Tony Flood cancelled out Wayne Gosh's goal for Albion.

THE DAILY ECHO SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 2012

Non-league Football

stalemate

HONOURS were even in the Division 4 match of the day with Luke Wadey, Marc Scrimshaw and Leighton Clarke earning pacesetters Shoulder of Mutton Reserves a 3-3 draw with unbeaten promotion rivals

They replied through Shaun Waterman, Tom Linbourne and Will Ireland. East Christchurch SSC skipper Alan

Etherton led by example, nabbing four goals in their 9-4 triumph over Christchurch Royals in the PREMIER LEAGUE.

James Rowe (2), Dave Midgley (2) and James Wright were also on target for East Christchurch who are now four points clear at the top of the table. Royals' goals came via Chris Forbes, Max Crow and substitute Dale Simpson (2).

Bluewood Athletic led with goals from Mark Wheeler and Phil Swierczynski in DIVI-SION ONE but Bournemouth Athletic came back through Scott Reilly, Andy Wright, Shane Scott and an own goal to win 4-2.

Sean Heron and Tim Porter both claimed hat-tricks when KC Transport larruped Poole Wanderers 9-1 to move up to second place in DIVISION THREE. Glenn Bowen, Mike Hampton and Matty Wells were the other KC marksmen, James Deem scoring Wanderers' consolation goal.

AFC Ringwood remain three points clear at the top of DIVISION FIVE after their 5-1 victory over Strouden Sports thanks to a Sam Yeats hat-trick and further goals from Sean Leadbetter and Marc Seymour.

Rockbourne currently occupy the runnersup spot after completing their campaign with a 4-1 success against Magpies courtesy of Ben Jury (2), Chris Taylor and Jason Thorne, James Carter was the Magpies

Martyn MacKinley and Chris Underwood netted for Ace but Townsend Spartans nudge them out of the runners-up spot in **DIVISION SIX on goal difference after** upending them 6-2 through Josh Prince, Parris Simpkins and Charlie Foreman's four-goal blast.

At the other end of the table, struggling AFC Burton Reserves were on the receiving end again when DH Britannia ran out 3-0 winners with goals from Ross Tucker, Steve McLarty and Chris Payne.
Priory Quays Reserves are off the bottom

of the DIVISION SEVEN table at the expense of Intellihouse after tanning them 5-1 in the basement battle. Chris Williams notched a hat-trick for Priory with the other two goals coming from Greg Nolan. Gethyn Badman scored the consolation goal for Intellihouse.

Richmond Park Rangers netted through Tony Hannan-Bobe (2) and Jason Morgan but they had to settle for a point when Ryan Worledge (2) and Jamie Smith earned James & James a 3-3 draw. ECP were leading DIVISION EIGHT leaders

Cranborne 2-1 when the game was abandoned after 65 minutes due to the deteriorating conditions. Owen Jones and Wayne McManus were the ECP marksmen with Kevin Joyce replying for Cranborne.

Winkton Autos netted through Mike Butcher and Matt Shaylor but Mount boosted their promotion hopes by winning 3-2 with goals from Duncan Moody (2) and Matt

Promotion Keeping Tootball alive and kicking

Simon Walter

THE Hampshire FA has responded to the decline of Sunday football by forming new leagues to cater for all players throughout the week.

Sophie appointed as the Hampshire FA's Get Into Officer months ago, since when she has been creating opportunities for people to play different forms of the game in Southampton - whatever their age, sex or work commitments.

Currently, she is focused on forming an under-21s division for the City of Southampton Sunday League as well as a monthly 11-a-side

league.
But she is also trying to give women, the disabled and over-35s more oppor-

tunities to play.
One of 33 Get into
Football Officers in the country, her role is fund-ed by Mars and Sport England as well as the Hampshire FA. She said: "Nationally

there has been a decline in male adult participation, not just on a Sunday but on a Saturday as well.

"We have been put in place purely to increase opportunities for those over 16.

There is no doubt that weekend football is in

decline.
"Work shift patterns



Hants FA trying a different approach

and family commitments are the main reasons given," says Sophie.
"But people are prepared to be flexible."

Sophie believes this demand will ensure the flourishing of the new Southampton Health Kicks midweek floodlit 11-aside league.

"That's been our biggest success so far,' she continued.

"We already have 13 teams playing Monday and Hampshire FA

Wednesday evenings Southampton Sports Centre and Redbridge School. "We hope it

will expand. There are a lot of people playing five-a-side who, given the choice, would prefer to play 11-a-

"We're also working closely with the leagues that already exist to maintain participation and at the moment that involves setting up a league to cater for over-18s who do not want to play adult football.

'The transition from youth to adult football is one of the biggest problem We have the areas. Eastleigh & District mini leagues (under 8-10) and the Tyro League, which provides 11-a-side football up to under-15, but there is nothing to cater for players after the City of Southampton youth Southampton youth league (under 16-18) if they are not ready for the

step up.
"So we are working with league to create an under-21 section so those players do not drop out of football

altogether.
"Several teams have

already applied." Not all the Hampshire FA schemes involve com-

restrictive football.

"Some of it is not even affiliated," Sophie explains. "The FA and Mars have introduced a lust. Play compoign. Just Play campaign which is all about giving people the opportunity to do just that.

"Men can turn up to Test Park and do that on a Saturday night and I'm trying to get a women's 11-a-side team started that began as a Just Play group at Goals in Millbrook

"There's also a Just Play session for adults, male or female, at Chamberlayne Leisure Centre on Wednesday mornings.

"And we're looking to create more vets leagues, a summer 11-a-side league and a monthly college league. People still want competitive football, but we need to cater for all and give everyone the chance to play."

• If you are interested in finding out about more football opportunities in contact Southampton Davis 07983577646 Sophie.Davis@Hampshire fa.com)

THE SECRETARY of the Southampton Sunday League is hoping a new under-21s division will be launched next season.

Earlier this week, the manager of leading club in the Bournemouth Hayward League's Premier Division said: "Sunday football is dying". But Hazel Andrews, sec-

retary of the CSSFL, is determined to encourage

more participation. She said: "We're holding She said: "We're holding our own at the moment. Last year we had 15 new clubs, which effectively replaced the ones we lost

during the season. "It often happens that clubs fold because players don't pay their subs but we're OK as a league because there are always new teams interested in

"Generally, numbers have gone down slightly in the last few years because teams can play on every day of the week at JD Fives and places like that.

"But we still have about 70 teams every year across our eight divisions - Premier and Senior and the six Junior leagues.

"We're already interviewing new teams with a view to them joining next season and have five interested in making up our first under-21s league.

"There seems to be a gap for players between the age of 16 and 21. We tried to generate interest last year and the one team that came forward was happy to go into one of our adult leagues, as you have to be 16 to play in those anyway. "But this year we're working with Sophie Davis, the Get into Football officer at the Hampshire FA, to see if we can get the eight teams needed to make a new U21s league viable.

"We'll only interview the teams if eight come for-

"So far we have five and another 18 teams have expressed an interest in

FULL ROUND-UP OF LOCAL FOOTBALL RESULTS AF

Non-league Football

ELECTRIC SHOCK JOLTS DIVISION 3

DIVISION THREE front runners Bournemouth Electric A crashed to a shock 3-0 defeat against bottom placed Old Oakmeadians Reserves, whose goals came via Jamie Brierley (2) and Aaron Ticehurst.

Second placed Parley Sports A also came a cropper when Redhill Rangers toppled them 5-3 with goals from Pete Valinski (2), Rob Jackson (2), and James Vallory while third placed Bisterne Rangers drew 2-2 with Mudeford Mens Club Reserves.

Paul Adlam and Ben Harris were the Bisterne scorers with Pete Thorne and Anthony Smith scoring for Mudeford.

Redlynch & Woodfalls United Reserves had the upper hand 4-2 against Seabornes thanks to Nick Scott (2), Jamie Frampton, and Justin Down while Downton Sports poleaxed AFC Burton 8-1 courtesy of Luke Charity's hattrick, an own goal, and further goals from Chris Jackson, Tom Sainsbury, Tony Randall, and Mat Gurd.

Ed Ewens struck for the reigning PREMIER DIVISION champions Westover Bournemouth but Hamworthy Recreation just got the better of them 2-1 with goals from Luke Dawe and Gary Vincent

Redlynch & Woodfalls United were denied a point when Anthony Sykes grabbed a last minute winner to give Parley



HAYWARD SATURDAY LEAGUE

Sports the verdict 2-1. Sykes had put Parley on terms after Redlynch led through Ben

Trinidad remain anchored to the bottom after Allendale scuppered them 4-1 with goals from Dave Rimmer (2), George Knijff, and Nick Johnson.

Mike Kitson led the way with a hat-trick when DIVISION ONE leaders Mudeford Men's Club returned to winning ways with a convincing 4-0 victory over promotion rivals Alderholt.

Toby Sherriff was the other Mudeford marksman while Harrington United move past Alderholt and Ferndown Sports into third place after Rob Scadding scored both goals in their 2-0 win over Ferndown Town Greenfields.

HAYWARD SATURDAY LGE

Double hat-trick

MARK Pudney and Dan Whitthorn both bagged hattricks when DIVISION TWO leaders Richmond Park Con hammered Westover Bournemouth Reserves 7-0 with Sam Cummings also on target. Queens Park Athletic move up to second place after

Queens Park Athletic move up to second place after sweeping Mploy aside 5-2 thanks to Ricky Powell and Mike Thompson's four goal blast while South Coast Demolition had a narrow 4-3 victory over St Marys thanks to Adrian Snell (2), James Rayner, and David Hounsell.

Seyward Windows remain six points adrift at the bottom of the table after Bournemouth Manor Reserves upended them 3-0 with goals from Jamie Stacey, Nick Arnold, and Rob Walter.

DIVISION FOUR leaders AFC Pennington thrashed tailenders Milford 9-0 with goals from Dan Peach (2), Jordan Ainsworth (2), Nick Pegram, Matt Bealey, James Ketley, Lloyd Cavill, and Thomas Jourdan and Billy McCormick's hat-trick for Fifa Standards was to no avail when second placed Queens Park Athletic Reserves upended them 5-3 with goals from Alec Holloway (2), Alex Joy, Lee Pender, and Josh Harper.

BU Staff remain in contention after Paul Tiller and Martin Squires gave them the edge 2-1 against AFC Bransgore who replied through Luke Bassil.

James Reading and Chris Payne struck for New Milton Eagles but Ferndown Sports Reserves move up to third place in the table after emerging 4-2 winners through Mike Green (2), Kevin Crabb, and an own goal. Gary Cutler and Danny Snell netted for Richmond

Park Con Reserves but the DIVISION FIVE champions' unbeaten run came to an end when FC Boscelona emerged 3-2 winners through Chris Williams, Tom Williams, and Joe Beaven.

Allendale Reserves strengthened their grip on second place when Bradley Fitzwalter (2), Jim Hill, and Tim York accounted for Shamrock 4-1 while, at the other end of the table, Bransgore United eased their relegation worries when they walloped Bournemouth Manor A 6-1 through Jem Page (2), Blake Vincent, Sean Barton, Mike Dawson, and Lee Wiltshire.

A & T Athletic are promoted from DIVISION SIX after their 5-0 triumph over Everton & Lymington Argyle with goals from Toby Williams (2), Daniel Wills (2), and Liam Holland

Ross Dominey bagged a nine minute hat-trick in Lower Parkstone CFC's 6-3 success against Redhill Rangers Reserves with the other goals coming via Chris Elkins (2) and Matt Kerley while Ringwood Athletic move up to sixth place in the table after John Langley, Billy Langley, Richard Everett, and Carl Scriven put paid to Bransgore United Reserves 4-2.



THE DAILY ECHO SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 2012

Youth Football

HAMPSHIRE SIXTH FORM COLLEGES LEAGUE TABLES

First XI

	Ρ	W	L	D	F	Α	Pts
Itchen	13	12	1	0	63	12	36
Sparsholt	13	9	1	3	37	8	30
Taunton's	12	9	2	1	61	16	28
Alton	12	9	2	1	34	22	28
Brockenhurst	13	8	3	2	43	20	26
Farnborough	11	8	2	1	46	19	25
Poole	13	7	5	1	37	25	22
Totton	11	6	3	2	20	18	20
Peter Symonds	12	5	5	2	34	27	17
Queen Mary's	13	5	7	1	29	30	16
Barton Peveril	13	4	7	2	35	57	14
Bournemouth	14	2	10	2	23	41	8
Havant	12	2	9	1	17	48	7
Portsmouth	13	2	10	1	16	55	7
South Downs	11	1	10	0	13	60	3
Basingstoke	14	1	13	0	22	72	3

Second X

Occoria Ai							
	Ρ	W	L	D	F	Α	Pt
Itchen	17	16	1	0	100	16	48
Queen Mary's	17	13	3	1	64	31	40
Totton	15	11	1	3	50	16	36
St Vincent	18	11	6	1	52	37	34
Barton Peveril	17	11	6	0	57	29	33
Sparsholt	14	9	4	1	40	18	28
Farnborough	12	9	3	0	56	24	27
Taunton's	15	8	4	3	49	37	27
Brockenhurst	14	8	5	1	46	27	25
Alton	15	8	6	1	45	34	25
Bay House	16	7	6	3	40	30	24
Fareham	16	7	6	3	45	46	24
Bournemouth	17	7	9	1	31	47	22
Peter Symonds	15	6	7	2	50	59	20
Poole	18	4	11	3	25	55	15
Eastleigh	17	3	13	1	23	89	10
Havant	16	3	13	0	15	73	9
South Downs	15	2	11	2	15	45	8
Basingstoke	18	1	16	1	8	45	4
Portsmouth	16	1	14	1	25	78	4

Third XI

I I III U AI							
	Ρ	W	L	D	F	Α	Р
Itchen	13	11	1	1	76	13	3
Brockenhurst	13	10	1	2	52	14	3
Sparsholt	12	10	0	2	47	12	3
Barton Peveril	12	8	4	0	41	18	2
Farnborough	11	7	3	1	50	20	2
Queen Mary's	14	7	6	1	35	34	2
Totton	10	7	3	0	27	16	2
King Edward's VI	12	6	4	2	39	28	2
South Downs	11	5	6	0	19	33	1
Taunton's	12	4	6	2	22	31	1
Poole	14	4	10	0	19	36	1
Collegiate(HCS)	11	4	7	0	25	56	1
Bay House	13	2	8	3	18	29	
Peter Symonds	12	2	10	0	15	36	
St Vincent	11	1	8	2	5	54	
Eastleigh	11	0	11	0	2	62	

ITCHEN'S SECOND WIND CARRIES THEM TO WITHIN TOUCHING DISTANCE OF TITLE



SHOOTING STAR: Calum Oliver (blue) scores Itchen's third goal against Taunton's.

Echo pictures by Paul Collins Order no: 14038826

ITCHEN are within touching distance of a fourth successive Hampshire Sixth Form Colleges League title after repelling a battling Taunton's second-

half comeback to emerge 4-3 winners in the midweek city derby at wind swept Hill Lane.

They looked to have the game – and probably the championship – in the bag when they swept into a 3-0 interval lead, *writes MIKE VIMPANY*.

But Taunton's – reduced to ten men when Alex Sawyer was red carded shortly before half-time – hit back with three goals of their own to level affairs at 3-3 before Callum Oliver grabbed Itchen's winner.

Callum Oliver grabbed Itchen's winner.
The result gives Itchen a six-point advantage over Sparsholt, who thrashed South Downs 7-1

Itchen took what appeared an unassailable lead when Ryan Lewis and Oliver improved on a crisp opening strike by Isaac McLean, who scored with a sweet shot on the turn inside the box.

When the reckless Sawyer clattered into Itchen's Jordan Chalk and Taunton's were reduced to ten men, it appeared all over bar the proverbial shouting.

Taunton's first-half performance was lack-lustre, but with the prospect of an embarrassing thumping in the forefront of their minds they perked up after the break.

Like Itchen, Taunton's made light of playing into a headwind and promptly scored twice immediately after half-time.

Luke Harry got them back into the game with a 20-yarder, then Elliott Richards headed a second.

Then, shortly after Luke Roberts had twice gone close, Itchen's Ross Casey



OPENER: Isaac McLean (blue) put Itchen ahead against Taunton's in midweek. Order no: 14038910

could only parry a Richards shot and Ricky Richardson headed a simple Taunton's equaliser from just under the har

The outcome of the championship probably hinged on to the last half hour and it was Itchen who got the vital goal through Oliver after Taunton's had got themselves in a mix from McLean's shot.

Romario Hart (2), Michael Fahm (2), Toby McCauley, Luke Ginger, and Jordan Dent hit the target as Sparsholt spanked South Downs 7-1 to take over second spot.

Sparsholt face Farnborough away on Monday before the Colleges Cup final showdown with Itchen at Team Solent's Test Park ground on Wednesday week, March 21. While Totton and Barton Peveril were

While Totton and Barton Peveril were slugging out a goalless draw, Marshall, Perkins, Johnson and Sampson got the goals in Alton's 4-1 win over a Brockenhurst second string side.

LOVEly **jubbly**

BROCKENHURST are making good progress towards repeating their British Colleges Cup triumph of two seasons ago.

They moved to within one win of the final with a Jack Lovell inspired 2-0 victory over Swansea-based Gower and now await a tasty semi-final home tie against East Norfolk on Wednesday week, March 21.

Lovell's two first half goals – which took his tally for the season to 15 – paved the way to a comfortable win for Brock, who wrapped things up through Lewis Stride after the break.

Before the end, England Colleges international Adam Stride rattled the Gower crossbar with a remarkable shot from inside his own half.

Brockenhurst have so far beaten Queen Mary's (3-2), South Downs (7-1), BHASVIC (5-0), Collyers (2-0), South Thames (1-0) and Gower (3-0) to reach the semi-finals.



CHAMPIONS:

Hedge End Rangers Kestrels undertens who won the Eastleigh & District Mini League underten White League title with a total of 45 points edging Eastleigh Whites into second on goal difference. Kestrels' outstanding league season brought them 21 victories, three draws and only two defeats - as well as 119 goals!

Youth Football



CUP OF JOY: Hampshire FA cup competitions are reaching their latter stages, with two decided in the past week. . Under-11 cup winners Fareham Town Youth, left, celebrate their 4-2 final victory over Shooters while, right, under-15 winners Compton Youth line up for the camera.



SAINTS CLOSE IN ON SILVERWARE

SOUTHAMPTON Saints Girls & Ladies FC's under-12s require just one point from their remaining three games to secure the Winchester & District Girls' League title.

Saints all but secured the silverware with a 2-1 victory at Bishop's Waltham last weekend.

Saints were soon into their stride, Alisha Buckingham netting with a powerful shot on 15 minutes.

The hosts were a well organised unit and it took Saints until just before the break to double their advantage – Georgia-Rose Mears on target.

Saints continued to create chances in the second half but were thwarted by a player-of-the-match performance from Bishop's Waltham's keeper Natalie Miles.

And the hosts also had the final say goals-wise, netting a consolation with a deflected strike.

The three other league fix-

The three other league fixtures all ended with honours even.
Winchester Flyers and

Winchester Flyers and Warsash Yellows joined with Worthies and Pompey Uni with 1-1 draws, while Hedge End Rangers and St Francis Raiders both managed two goals each in a competitive and enjoyable game. For Hedge End, Molly Renshaw bagged a brace and for the Raiders it was Paige Loveland and Beth Rivers on target.

HOW THEY STAND

	P W D			L	GD	Pts	
SOUTHAMPTON SAINTS	13	12	1	0	91	37	
WARSASH WASPS YELLOW	11	6	2	3	16	20	
WINCHESTER FLYERS	10	6	2	2	15	20	
HEDGE END RANGERS	11	4	6	1	0	18	
WARSASH WASPS BLACK	12	5	2	5	1	17	
PORTSMOUTH UNIVERSITY	11	5	2	4	-7	17	
BISHOPS WALTHAM	10	1	1	8	-16	4	
WORTHIES	11	1	1	9	-45	4	
ST FRANCIS RAIDERS	11	1	1	9	-55	4	

• Saints' under-14 side walloped New Forest Jets 13-0 in the New Forest Girls' League.

■ GIRLS' FOOTBALL

The Jets goalkeeper was called in to action throughout the game and performed admirably, although she was unable to stop first-half goals from Saints skipper Tiffany Eley (2), Megan Chapman (2), Vogue Davies and Paris Payne.

There was no respite for the Jets after the break, Saints scoring a further seven goals through Eley (2), Chapman, Davies, Payne, Elle Pearce and Emily Lusted.

Elsewhere in the league, Crofton saw off Bitterne Belles with an unanswered four-goal away victory in Division 1.

League leaders Corfe Mullen defeated Boscombe Albion by two goals to one and Mudeford came out as 3-0 victors over New Forest.

• Two things Saints under-11s have done consistently well all season is score goals and still keep it tight at the back – and last weekend was no exception as they beat Winchester Flyers 6-0.

Elsewhere in the Winchester & District Girls' League there was a nine-goal humdinger of a game that saw Warsash Wasps Yellow host St Francis Rovers. Amazingly, three girls got all nine goals between them, with each scoring a hat-trick. For Warsash it was Natasha Wild and for the visitors the scorers were Chloe Perry and Holly Vallance to bag all the

The only other fixture saw Crofton win 2-1 at Crookham.

In the under-ten section of the league, Saints defeated Warsash Wasps 3-0 with goals from Kia Anteney (2) and Jennifer King. Elsewhere, Widbrook Ladies

Elsewhere, Widbrook Ladies won 1-0 at Whiteley Wanderers, while Clanfield and Winchester drew 0-0.



TON SAINTS GIRLS & LADIES FC U12s: Pictured: Rachael Harman, Emily Herding (captain), Leah Brown, Chloe Donaldson, Lucia Shiner, Alisha Buckingham. Abbie Kill, Sarah Bukeley, Chloe Garrity, Georgia-Rose Mears. Lauren Stone and manager Barry Fry.

SOUTHAMP-



SOUTHAMPTON SAINTS GIRLS & LADIES FC UNDER-TENS: 3-0 winners over Warsash Wasps.

THE DAILY ECHO SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 2012

Youth Football







Tyro League Division 5 Romsey Town Panthers U12 2 Winchester Youth Blue U12 2

PANTHERS needed to win the last league match of the season against unbeaten top team Winchester to move into second place.

Their task became harder when Winchester led 2-0 after only ten minutes with two breaks and

minutes with two breaks and crashing shots past Jack Harvie. But they quickly got back into the game when Jonty Crossland put Louis Andrews in possession and Mitchell Wheeler was waiting in the goal area to slot into the right-hand corner to make it 2-1.

Wheeler almost repeated the trick with a brilliant strike but the Winchester keeper produced a fine save, Romsey being unlucky not to score during a scramble in front of

the goal resulting from the corner.
Defenders Jack Houghton, Regan
Fellingham, Nathan Lewis and
Angus Hannigan grew in confidence dealing with the Winchester breaks and Romsey were pushing

Panthers' comeback turns it into Tyro League thriller

hard for the equaliser. Jamie Marshall made some great runs down the left wing, finding Tyler Rose and Levi Greenough in the middle.

Then a superb cross across the goalmouth from Mitchell Wheeler allowed Haydn Barnes to slip the ball into the net just on half-time.

Good clearances by Jack Houghton and Reagn Fellingham and fine passing in midfield from Nathan Lewis and Jonty Crossland, feeding excellent balls to the forwards boosted Romsey in the second half.

But Winchester were proving dif-ficult to break down and showed why they had not lost.

Romsey maintained pressure for the complete half but could not achieve the breakthrough.

Both sides played well in muddy

conditions and Romsey put their all into the game.

Picking a man of the match was difficult and went to them all for their team spirit and total effort.

Barton Stacey U10 0
Braishfield Bees U10 0
DESPITE the score-line, Bees played out a thrilling draw against

the second placed team.

After hard work on the training ground, the visitors put some sublime passing moves together.

Seb Gay was untroubled in the Bees' goal, thanks to resolute defending from Ben Pearce, whilst Adam Sandison and Alex Jones marauded down the wings.

While both sides enjoyed good spells of pressure, clear chances were few. Jonny Palmer's free kick from 15 yards was blocked by the wall. Cameron Moody delivered a succession of accurate corners but the visitors could not apply the finishing touch.

Bees remain third in the League.

Wellow YFC U10 8 Hedge End U10 1 WITH her first ever goal for the

team Siena Arney helped Wellow to an impressive victory against Hedge End.

Luke Dear and Billy Brown looked good in defence and, with Jamie Ball controlling midfield, Wellow played with growing confidence. Joshua Harwood helped himself to an impressive goal haul of four, Sonny Ryan adding two.

Hedge End got on the score sheet but Oliver Dunne had the final word when his long range effort whizzed in.

Wellow YFC U10 2 Fawley U10 0

IN deteriorating weather, a man down and with no subs on the bench, Wellow had to dig deep to overcome a lively Fawley team.

Rafe Bath was confident in goal and James Cooper played well in defence, breaking forward on a few occasions and unlucky not to get on the score sheet himself.

Siena Arney went close twice and Sonny Ryan did well propping up the defence.

Ollie Dunne and Josh Harwood controlled the middle of the park and Harwood finished twice with great composure.

Braishfield Bees U8 3 Whitchurch U8 0

Whitchurch U8 0
DESPITE playing a strong
Whitchurch side, the Bees managed to control the game for long
periods and secured the win with a fine hat-trick from Raphael Mollinson.

The Bees showed excellent teamwork, with good use of space and passing, to end up as comfortable

Youth Football



NO NEED FOR A SHOWER: The Wyvern back line are standing up well to the rain, but the front three appear to be getting dripped upon.

Order no: 14011688, Pictures by Matt Watson.

Mud, glorious mud!



FOOTBALL in the rain? Lovely!

The ball skids around a treat and there's plenty of mud to roll about in.

Brendon FC (red and black) and Wyvern FC (blue and red) were clearly enjoying themselves in the Eastleigh and District Mini-League at Fleming Park, Eastleigh, on Sunday.

It was just that waiting around for Daily Echo photographer Matt Watson to take the picture was a bit chilly for the Brendon team, below.



Worthys end with flourish

Worthys U9 8 Tidworth Gunners 1 WORTHYS saved their best performance for their final Testway League game – and showed how far they have developed this season.

A dangerous Tidworth side finished one place above them in the league and Worthys found themselves under early pressure.

They needed combination of strong defending from the excellent Louis Berglin and Ciaran Bryant and confident goalkeeping by Ben Sauve as Tidworth forced a series of corners.

But, in their first attack of the game, Worthys' leading scorer Harry Fawcitt finished coolly after being put clear by Liam Kierans.

Fawcitt returned the favour and crossed for Kierans to sidefoot home but Tidworth pulled back a deserved goal back with a fine shot from outside the area.

Worthys midfield pairing of the tireless Joey Mitchell and Luke Guerrier battled hard for every ball and linked well with their strikers. And Guerrier was rewarded when he charged down an attempted clearance and the ball looped over the Tidworth keeper to make it 3-1.

Worthys scored a fourth goal straight from kick off in the second half, Guerrier dribbling through and scoring left-footed.

And they played good passing football to keep Tidworth on the defensive.

Fawcitt scored two more well taken goals, to complete his second hat-trick in two games.

Second half subs Anakin Males and James White came on and showed the strength of the squad with fine performances, White in particular unselfishly setting up two more goals for Guerrier

Frustration for Barton

CK Andover 1 Barton Stacey 0 BARTON Stacey had ten corners during the game but were unable to find a way through a well organised defence.

Toast sponsored Barton opted to kick up the slope in the first half, having lots of possession. Bertie Southgate had their first

Bertie Southgate had their first chance after a defence-splitting pass by Adam Woods – only to be denied by the keeper.

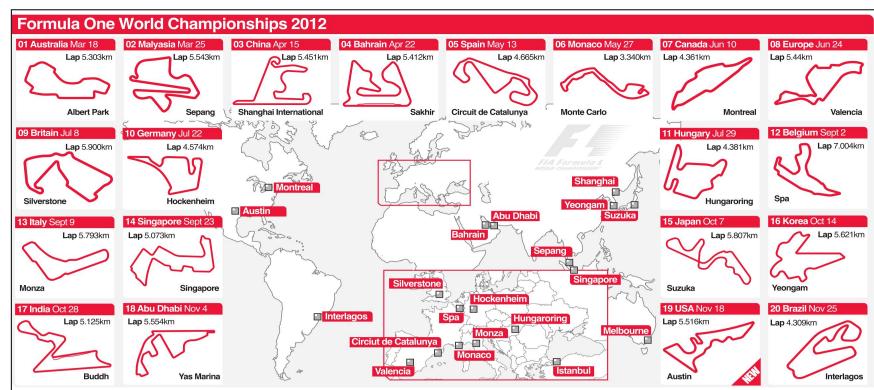
Barton Stacey keeper Lennie Sims made several saves to keep the scores level at the break.

Andrew Hughes and James Ironton both did well after coming on in the second half and Callum Giles's inswinging corners caused CK problems

CK scored with what can only be described as a scrappy goal.

described as a scrappy goal.
With Thomas Oliver, Dean Pitman going close and Cameron Proctor working alongside the impressive Jordan Blackmore Barton were very unlucky not to get a result.





Red Bull



HQ: Milton Keynes, England

Drivers:

Sebastian Vettel (Ger) Mark Webber (Au)

Engine: Renault RS27-2012

Tyres: Pirelli

First season: Australia 2005 Team principal: Christian Horner

2011 position: 1st Drivers titles: 2 Constructors titles: 2

McLaren



HQ: Woking, England Drivers:

Jenson Button (GB) Lewis Hamilton (GB)

Engine: Mercedes Benz FO 108Z

Tvres: Pirelli

First season: Monaco 1966 Team principal: Martin Whitmarsh

2011 position: 2nd Drivers titles: 12 Constructors titles: 8

Ferrari



HQ: Maranello, Italy

Fernando Alonso (Spa) Felipe Massa (Brz) Engine: Ferrari 056

Tvres: Pirelli First season: Monaco 1950 Team principal: Stefano Domenicali

2011 position: 3rd Drivers titles: 15 Constructors titles: 16

Mercedes



HQ: Brackley, England

Michael Schumacher (Ger) Nico Rosberg (Ger)

Engine: Mercedes Benz FO108Z

Tvres: Pirelli First season: 2010

Team principal: Ross Brawn

2011 position: 4th

Drivers titles: 1 as Brawn GP Constructors titles: 1 as Brawn GP

Lotus



HQ: Enstone, England Drivers:

Kimi Rikknen (Fin) Romain Grosjean (Fra) Engine: Renault RS27-2012

Tvres: Pirelli First season: 1981

Team principal: Eric Boullier 2011 position: 5th as Renault

Drivers titles: 2 Constructors titles: 2

Force India



HQ: Silverstone, England

Drivers:

Paul di Resta (Scot) Nico Hulkenberg (Ger) Engine: Mercedes Benz

Tyres: Pirelli

First season: Australia 2008 Team principal: Vijay Mallya

2011 position: 6th Drivers titles: 0 Constructors titles: 0

Sauber



HQ: Hinwil, Switzerland

Drivers:

Kamui Kobayashi (Jap) Sergio Perez (Mex) Engine: Ferrari 056 Tyres: Pirelli

First season: South Africa 1993 Team principal: Peter Sauber

2011 position: 7th Drivers titles: 0 Constructors titles: 0

Toro Rosso



HQ: Faenza, Italy

Drivers:

Daniel Ricciardo (Au) Jean-Eric Vergne (Fra) Engine: Ferrari 056

Tyres: Pirelli

First season: Bahrain 2006 Team principal: Franz Tost

2011 position: 8th Drivers titles: 0 Constructors titles: 0



HQ: Grove, England

Drivers:

Pastor Maldonado (Ve) Bruno Senna (Brz)

Engine: Renault RS27-2012

Tvres: Pirelli

First season: Argentina 1978 Team principal: Sir Frank Williams

2011 position: 9th Drivers titles: 7 Constructors titles: 9

Caterham



HQ: Hingham, England

Drivers:

Heikki Kovalainen (Fin) Vitaly Petrov (Rus)

Engine: Renault RS27-2012

Tyres: Pirelli First season: 2010

Team principal: Tony Fernandes

150mm

625mm _550mm

2011 position: 10th as Lotus Renault Drivers titles: 0 Constructors titles: 0

HRI



HQ: Madrid, Spain Drivers:

Pedro de la Rosa (Spa) Narain Karthikevan (Ind) Engine: Cosworth CA2012

Tyres: Pirelli First season: 2010

Team principal: Luis Perez-Sala

2011 position: 11th Drivers titles: 0 Constructors titles: 0

Marussia



HQ: Banbury UK

Drivers:

Timo Glock (Ger) Charles Pic (Fra)

Engine: Cosworth CA2012

Tyres: Pirelli First season: 2010 Team principal: John Booth 2009 position: 6th

Drivers titles: 0

Constructors titles: 0

2012 rule changes

In order to increase safety, for 2012 the FIA has decided to lower the height of the car s front section, primarily to lessen the chance of one car s nose intruding into the cockpit of another in the event of a side-on collision. The height of the chassis immediately ahead of the cockpit can still be up to 625mm above the reference plane (PR), but then in the space of 150mm it must fall to 550mm

As part of moves to outlaw blown diffusers, the FIA has imposed new restrictions on the positioning of exhaust exits for 2012. There can only be one exit on each side of the car and it must fall within the line shown here





LONDON 2012 OLYMPICS COUNTDOWN



Vaterfield's dives QUOTES OF THE WEEK reach a high point

believes he is diving better than ever following his success at the FINA World Cup.

Having won bronze in the 10m platform at the London Aquatics Centre a fortnight ago, Waterfield heads to Dubai on Monday – his 31st birthday – for the first leg of the World Series

the World Series.

It is the first of several competitions ahead of this summer's Olympic Games in the city where it all began for Waterfield.

He believes he is peaking at the right time, with London 2012 only four months away.

'I'm getting older but seem to be getting better results, with the highest world place I've ever got," he said. "I had an injury over

Christmas and only had four weeks of proper training so went into the World Cup unprepared if you like. "I had to draw on all my 21

years' experience to try and do the best I could." Waterfield also finished sev-

water lief also limitated seventh with Tom Daley in the 10m synchro. "That didn't go as well as we would have liked but that experience has definitely helped," he continued

"I'm just doing the synchro at the World Series so it will be nice to concentrate on that as I'm happy with my individual performance.

"I go from Dubai to China for the second leg in April. Then, in May, we have the European Championships European Championships and a little training camp in



Spain to give our bodies a bit of a rest Olympics." before the

Waterfield and the Southampton Diving Academy's three other FINA World Cup representatives were all welcomed back by the club at the Eastpoint Control Thompbill this week Centre, Thornhill this week.

Chris Mears (3m spring-board) and Stacie Powell (10m

"I'm getting older but seem to be getting better results"

platform) both finished in the top 18, ensuring maximum GB representation at London

"It was a great experience, there was a lot of pressure to get a place and I really didn't want a dive off as that would have meant waiting till June," said Mears, who is just grateful to be alive after suffering a ruptured spleen three years ago. "To make the top 18 was a brilliant feeling, the best moment of my

Powell was delighted to be competing again after return-ing to full fitness, but had mixed feelings after finishing 15th.

"It was great just to be up there with the home crowd behind me showing what I can do, having been out for a long time individually," she

"I was really pleased with my prelim performance, making the top 18 for Great Britain meant the pressure

"But I dropped from third to 15th when my final dive did-n't go as I wanted. I had an adrenaline rush and over rotated by a few degrees. When you do things a bit quicker it makes a big differ-ence in diving." _Southampton-born Max

Brick also experienced the fine line between success and failure at the highest level after finishing 31st in the 10m platform.

"I missed one dive and was out of the game," he said. "It's a new dive on my list, a forward four-and-a-half somersault, one of the hardest in the world. It was a gamble but I had to do it to try and catch

"It was still a brilliant experience, the pool was absolutely beautiful and it's hard to explain the atmosphere. The wall of noise makes your legs shake but it was good fun."



PERFECT PLUNGE: Pete Waterfirld competing at the London Aquatics Centre.

"Firstly they forced the player to travel, then they forced him to play 90 minutes after being injured and had a centre-back on the bench who did not play at all, in a friendly game knowing

even go to the European Championship. For me, that is difficult to understand" - Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger is seething at Belgium's decision to play Thomas Vermaelen for the full

they do not

90 minutes of their friendly against Greece. "This ankle, it is something that I have had problems with for years and years. Every day, I have to look

after it. It's not

100 per cent,

campaign.

but I just have to look after it" Manchester City's David Silva admits he has been carrying an injury during his stellar Barclays Premier League

"Sometimes the most important players are the players you have already, and these guys sitting next to me have both got the chance of player of the year at this football club. They've been absolutely terrific and deserve their new con-tracts" - Newcastle manager

Alan Pardew heaps praise on Fabricio Coloccini and Tim Krul after the pair agreed new longterm contracts. "He is the best. There's no-

one else. He is a unique player because of his innate talent and also for his competitiveness" Barcelona coach Pep Guardiola praises Lionel Messi after he scored five goals in the 7-1 defeat of Bayer Leverkusen in the Champions League.

"He is the best play er in history. We have never seen anyone like him" - Cesc Fabregas adds his tribute to Barca teammate Messi.





ALL TOGETHER: Southampton Academy divers welcomed home at The Eastpoint Centre following the World Cup event in London, pictured with coach Lindsey Fraser, centre, are (left to right) Max Brick, Peter Waterfield, Chris Mears and Stacie Powell.



LONDON 2012 OLYMPICS COUNTDOWN



targets

last night admitted she was "gutted" to lose her second world title inside seven months, especially after briefly thinking she had pulled off a remarkable victory in Istanbul. Ennis, who is one of

Britain's biggest hopes for a gold medal at London 2012, went into the final event of the pentathlon at the World Indoor Championships trailing Olympic hep-tathlon champion Nataliya Dobrynska by a massive 93

The 26-year-old did all she could by taking almost four and a half seconds off her indoor personal best in winning the 800 metres – and then saw her name flash up in first place on the

scoreboard.
However, that was because Dobrynska's score for the 800m had not yet been added to her total, a total which eventually read 5,013 points for a new



JESSICA ENNIS

world record. Ennis had to settle for silver and a new personal best and British record of 4,965, with Lithuania's Austra Skujyte in third and Russia's Tatyana Chernova -

who took Ennis's world heptathlon title in Daegu last August - a distant fifth.

"I need to make sure I learn from these experiences, get it right and turn silver into gold this summer," Ennis said in ref-erence to the Olympic Games in

As for thinking she had won, she added: "It's the worst feel-

ing in the world." She added: "There's disappointment because I wanted to come here and retain my title but I had some good perfor-mances today, some things I need to go away and work on, but for a world record to win it obviously shows the standard is extremely high." Ennis said: "I am happy because two silver medals at

world champs is great but I would have loved to have won a gold medal. I believe things hap-pen for a reason and hopefully that reason's going to come clear later on in the year. "I've learnt loads from this

competition, I learnt loads from Daegu. I'm definitely in better shape now, I'm stronger, I'm doing PBs, but there are still things to work on, still things to improve so I can still hopefully get more points."

Ennis still targets PEOPLE OF SOUTHAMPTON, Olympics I WANT YOU TO BE LOUD!

Investec Women's Hockey League

WE recently made history as the first GB women's hockey team to make the final of the Champions Trophy.

It is a fantastic feeling.

Is a fantastic reeling.

At the time, though, it was just completely deafening.

Imagine not being able to hear yourself think, or what your teammates are saying to you while you're playing in the final of one of the most prestigious tournaments in t h e

That's what it was like in Argentina, playing the home side.
It was unbelievable, words

can't explain it adequately.

It was so loud! We came away with a silver medal, which was a great step forward for us considering it was a tournament for the top eight teams in the world.

We had some great performances against the Olympic champions from Beijing, Holland, and silver medallists China, but just fell at the final hurdle to a strong Argentine

The weirdest thing was feeling so low after the final, even though we did better than pre-

We've won a lot of bronze medals and so you finish the tournament on a real high having won the last game (the bronze medal play-off), so it feels brilliant.

But this wasn't like that at all. It was really strange feeling so disappointed.

I would definitely say that they had an extra person of the field in the crowd, and when we get to London we'll have that same support in our favour. support in our favour.

It really made me think how much a home advantage really does have.

Whether it's my neighbours from Southampton, or club members from Reading (where I play in the England Hockey League), I can't wait to have that same support on home soil.

The trip overall was really positive, but we were away and living out of our bags for longer than we would be normally. We had a Four Nations tournament beforehand in South America and so it became really important to get a balance of work and rest, so that we're all mentally and physically

Unlike some other team sports, we sometimes play back-to-back games and never have more than one day off mid-tournament. I always start my day with a swim, just to

recover and feel refreshed. I've actually got a pretty set routine, so

FORMER Trojans player and Great Britain hockey international ALEX DANSON writes an exclusive column for the Sports Pink in the build-up to the London 2012 games. ey itself. downtime. Investec position to be selected.

after swimming I watch

We have to have time away from hockey too, which is just as important as the hock-

the game from the day before and then debrief with the

I always room with Beth Storry, one of our goalkeepers, which is great and we always have a box set or DVDs to watch in our

We watched West Wing for the entire trip to Argentina, which I thoroughly enjoyed.

It almost sounds lazy, but it's just a case of putting your feet up, finding a good coffee shop nearby and then watching a load of box sets so I am in the best physical nick for the

The hardest part of this whole thing, our journey to the Olympics, is selection.

I don't like to talk about it much because we

have an amazing squad of 29 which has to be reduced to 16 for the Games.

It would be perfect for all 29 of us to go but as an athlete I know that's not the case.

Sport is amazing but it can be ruthless. I know I have to do the best that I can in the next few months, to put myself in the best

Then it's out of my hands... out of all of our hands. But as long as I look back and I know I've done everything, I know I've given my best, I've know I've pushed every boundary that I've had to push,

I'll be happy.

Whether I'm successful or unsuccessful I'll be able to be happy, and because the squad is so strong that's the only way that we can look at it.

• Investec, the specialist bank and asset manager, support women's hockey from grass roots level through to the Great Britain nation-

at team.

◆ For more information on the women's GB team visit www.investec.co.uk or www.england-hockey.co.uk

DAILY ECHO AND PINK - KEEPING YOU IN THE PICTURE

SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 2012 THE DAILY ECHO PINK 37



LONDON 2012 OLYMPICS COUNTDOWN



FROM the beaches of Dorset to the sun-kissed backdrop of California, it has been quite a journey for Gregg Weaver.

Considering the Poole man stumbled upon volleyball by chance, his achievements since rank as no mean feat.

When he set out on his adventure, the chance to compete at London 2012 must have seemed a distant dream.

While most Olympians probably always had their career path mapped out, Weaver's route appears to have been far less scripted.

In fact, had it not been for his neighbour, his push for Games glory might have never even started.

"Until I was 23, I had spent my entire life in Poole," said Weaver, talking to *The Daily Echo* on his way to training in California.

"I was born in Poole, raised in Poole and learned to play volleyball at Wessex Volleyball Club.

"I was 16 when I began playing and that is pretty late to start. I actually ended up starting because my neighbour, who I was good friends with, started playing and we went together.

"It was completely by chance and it was just something I stumbled upon.

"It has been a good journey and

I have learned a lot of life lessons.

"Although the sport of beach volleyball gets a very desirable media coverage, vou spend qualification is the obvious goal for all of Team GB's aspiring stars.

And the beach volleyball duo are well in the hunt – battling

a lot of

n

not-so-

But,

loca-

your patience your attitude."

Weaver and

playing

partner J o d y

Gooding, the hard

work could

be about to

pay off. With the

Olympics looming

tantalisingly

on the horizon,

some situations that test

for

tions in not-so-nice weather, in

and

time

And the beach volleyball duo are well in the hunt – battling rivals Steve Grotowski and Juan Garcia-Thompson for the chance to represent the host nation.

to represent the host nation.

Weaver, who divides his time between training and working as a technical account man

ager for a high-end scientific company, moved to California with his American wife to pursue his playing career following a funding cut in the UK.

One of a number of former Wessex players hoping to claim a dream ticket to London in the coming months, Weaver is determined to be among those proudly flying the flag for Dorset.

"There are about 20 tournaments over two years but they take your best 12 results," he said, explaining the lengthy selection process. "The points you accrue for those results get added up and the team from Great Britain that has the highest total will go to the Olympics.

"Britain can qualify two teams but it will be extremely tough for us to do that, just because of the depth of the other European countries.
"We are tied for first with

another British team at the

moment.
"The tournaments start in April and we then have five in a seven-week time-frame.

"That takes place from the third week in April and it is going to be a race between us and the other British team."

Bill for security a worry

MPs have expressed concern that the London 2012 Olympics may go over budget and said it was "staggering" that initial estimates about security costs were so wrong.

The Public Accounts

The Public Accounts
Committee's report into the
London Olympics also raised
concerns about the legacy of
the Games and warned that the
Olympic Stadium must not
become a white elephant.

The Government however have continued to insist they are confident the Games will come in under budget.

Margaret Hodge, chair of the Public Accounts Committee, said: "The venues and infrastructure of the London Olympic Games are on track to be delivered on time and within budget. The Olympic Delivery Authority's management of the building programme has been exemplary.

"However, the £9.3billion pub-

"However, the £9.3billion public sector funding package is close to being used up and we are concerned about whether the running of the Games will be held within budget. "Taking into account costs

"Taking into account costs outside the package, the full cost to the public of the Games and legacy projects is already heading for around £11billion.

"We are particularly concerned



MARGARET HODGE

about the significant increases in the security bill. LOCOG (the London organising committee) now needs more than twice the number of security guards it originally estimated and the costs have roughly doubled. "It is staggering that the original control or the stage or the staggering that the original control or the stage of the s

"It is staggering that the original estimates were so wrong."
The report states that the LOCOG have been forced to

LOCOG have been forced to renegotiate their contract with G4S for venue security from a "weak negotiating position". Hodge added: "There is a big question mark over whether it

question mark over whether it secured a good deal for the taxpayer."

LOCOG's original estimate for

LOCOG's original estimate for the number of security guards in and around the venues was 10,000 – a "finger in the air estimate", according to the PAC report. The Government announced in December that figure has more than doubled to 23,700. Security costs from the Olympics budget have risen from £282million to £553million. "LOCOG itself now has

almost no contingency left to meet further costs, even though it has done well in its revenue generation," says the report.





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THE MAIN **CONTENDERS FOR THIS** YEAR'S **GOLD CUP**

LONG RUN

Form: | |-22| Trainer: N Henderson

■ Festival form 2011 Gold Cup: 1st

2010 RSA Chase: 3rd Best odds: 9-4

KAUTO STAR

Form: 032200

Trainer: M Channon Festival form

2011 Gold Cup: 3rd 2010 Gold Cup: Fell

2009 Gold Cup: 1st 2008 Gold Cup: 2nd

2007 Gold Cup: 1st 2006 Champion Chase: Fell

Best odds: 7-2

BURTON PORT

Form: 21/2-2 ■ Trainer: N Henderson

Festival form 2010 RSA Chase: 2nd

Best odds: 10-1

GRANDS CRUS

■ Form: 2-6111

■ Trainer: D Pipe Festival form

2011 World Hurdle

SYNCHRONISED

■ Form: 3-P731 Trainer: | O'Neil

Festival form 2009 Pertemps Final:

2nd

■ Best odds: |4-|

MIDNIGHT CHAS

■ Form: 15-F31 Trainer: N Mulholland Festival form 2011 Gold Cup: 5th

2009 Martin Pipe Hurdle: 2nd

■ Best odds: 16-1

QUEL ESPRIT

■ Form: F-B111 Trainer: W Mullins

Festival form 2011 RSA Chase: Fell 2010 Neptune Hurdle Fell

2009 Champion Bumper 4th

■ Best odds: |6-|

WEIRD AL

Form: 18P-13 Trainer: D McCain

Festival form 2011 Gold Cup Pulled up Best odds: |6-|





Henderson out to create a new Festival record



HENDERSON'S season has always revolved around Cheltenham, but this year's Festival could arguably be as important as any during his long and distinguished career.

Indeed, even the first half of Tuesday afternoon could take him a whole lot closer to knowing if he will become the most successful trainer in the history of the meeting, as well as whether he is to pass Paul Nicholls and se-cure a first National Hunt championship title since

Henderson has already enjoyed 39 Festival winners by far and away more than any of his contemporaries and just one behind the alltime mark set by the great Fulke Walwyn.

The momentum he has gained from emerging young horses in recent campaigns sees him saddling perhaps his strongest ever team in 2012 - led by defending Gold Cup hero Long Run.

Ĥenderson's seven-yearold geared up for his defence by landing Newbury's Denman Chase last month, beating stablemate Burton Port by just half-a-length in a far from polished display.

Prior to that, Long Run's colours had been lowered by the ever-popular Kauto Star at Haydock and Kempton, and the two are preparing to head-to-head

although there have been doubts about Kauto's wellbeing after he fell on the gallops recently. Anxious eyes have been focused on Ditcheat, home of trainer Paul Nicholls, who trains Kauto Star, with regular updates coming from the champion trainer's yard.

Kauto was rated as just 50-50 a fortnight ago to run in the big race, but as every day passes so it looks more likely the two-time Gold Cup winner will be back to put the young guns in their places in what will be his sixth run in the big contest.

Nicholls reported recently: "We gave him two strong canters up the hill alongside my Fred Winter hopeful Ulck Du Lin.

"And I have to report he came through it fine and I'm happy with him at the moment.

"What particularly pleased me was that, aside from looking great, he came back from the work and had a good roll in his box, always a good sign with him.

"He looks happy in him-self and Clifford (Baker, head lad) is smiling.

"Everyone can make their own minds up as to how he looks and works.

"I must stress that it is one step at a time and it is important people don't get carried away. We aren't, just yet. But we are heading in

NICKY HENDERSON'S FESTIVAL WINNERS

Triumph Hurdle: 1985 First Bout, 1987 Alone Success, 1999 Katarino, 2009 Zaynar, 2010 Soldatino

Champion Hurdle: 1985-87 See You Then, 2009 Punjabi, 2010 Binocular Arkle: 1991 Remittance Man, 1993 Travado, 2000 Tiutchev

Champion Chase: 1992 Remittance Man

William Hill Supreme: 1986 River Ceiriog, 1992 Flown

Cathcart: 1990 Brown Windsor, 1994 Raymylette, 1999 & 2000

Stormyfairweather

World Hurdle: 1989 Rustle, 2000 Bacchanal

Byrne Group: 1985 & 1986 The Tsarevich, 2005 Liberthine, 2006 Non So Walwyn Muir: 1990 Master Bob, 2002 The Bushkeeper, 2005 Juveigneur

County Hurdle: 1993 Thumbs Up, 1997 Barna Boy

JLT Specialty: 2000 Marlborough

RSA Chase: 2005 Trabolgan Ryanair: 2006 Fondmort

Johnny Henderson Grand Annual: 2006 Greenhope

Martin Pipe: 2009 Andytown Coral Cup: 2010 Spirit River

Albert Bartlett: 2011 Bobs Worth

Betfred Gold Cup: 2011 Long Run



racing PLUS ...on sale EVERY DAY of the Cheltenham Festival

and hoping to see Long Run defend his crown

the right direction quickly, it seems.

Ruby Walsh will again get the leg up on Kauto Star if he makes it to Prestbury Park, but the Irishman who has amassed 32 Festival winners, knows Long Run will be a tough nut to crack

"I hope Kauto Star gets there 100 per cent, but whether he'll win or not he'll be a great ride," Walsh said. "Realistically, I think over that trip Long Run will be very hard to beat.

"It's not Cheltenham that suits Long Run, it's the

Long Run has not been without a scare, although according to Henderson, it is more a case of scare-mongering as he drifted on the betting exchanges.

"Unless someone's been in there in the middle of the night and hit him with a hammer then I don't know why (he is drifting)," said a baffled Henderson.

Long Run will have a schooling session with jumping guru Yogi Breisner a few days before the big race, with Henderson admitting his charge "won't see a fence between now and then".

Henderson also reckons Kauto Star will present a bigger threat than last year, adding: "I don't think there is any doubt that this is a

form with the Betfred

There is not much between Long Run and Kauto Star this year - I have confidence in my horse



different Kauto Star than we were playing with last year. There is not much between them, but I do believe Kauto has to be a better horse this season.

"Sam Waley-Cohen and Long Run get on really well together and I always will have total confidence in the horse and Sam riding him.

"I would just like a good honest gallop, let Sam get into a nice rhythm and have a nice time – if he enjoys it, the horse will enjoy it and

Henderson could have already equalled Walwyn's Festival winners record by the time the electric Sprinter Sacre tackles the Racing Post Arkle Novices' Chase. Then there is the

matter of former Champion Hurdler Binocular back in action against Hurricane Fly a little over half an hour

"The first three races are going to tell us an awful

lot," he said.
"I'm either going to be a happy Henderson, or a wounded one.'

Later on in the meeting Henderson will field such horses as Riverside Theatre as a possible favourite in the Ryanair Chase, Bobs Worth in the RSA Chase and Oscar Whisky taking on Big Buck's in the Ladbrokes World Hurdle, as well as Long Run in the Betfred Gold Cup. He added: "The numbers are good, and I've

got a few handicappers in there too.

"I think we've got good strength in depth everywhere and lots of chances. "With Sprinter Sacre, we

are the one everyone is going to be frightened of, and I'm going to be terrified watching him too. But, in the other races, I'm frightened of something else.

We were, of course, saying similar things 12 months ago when surveying a formidable Seven Barrows squad for the Festival, only for the stable to go through three blank days before Long Run and Bobs Worth played their parts. Henderson lost Riverside Theatre only days before last year's Ryanair and this time he has seen Spirit Son and Grandouet ruled out of

Hurdle. "These four days are all about races for which almost every bought," he said. horse is

the Stan James Champion

"Almost as soon as they are born, people want to know which races at Cheltenham they can go

"So the hardest thing, which I've had to do several times recently, is to ring up owners to tell them that the dream is over.

"But if it got any easier, or if I didn't get the buzz out of it. I wouldn't be doing it."

THE BEST OF THE REST **FORTHIS** YEAR'S **GOLD CUP**

WHAT A FRIEND

Form: 24P-33

Trainer: P Nicholl: Festival form

2008 Albert Bartlett:

2009 RSA Chase: 6th

2011 Gold Cup: 4th Best odds: 25-1

CAPTAIN CHRIS

Form: I-IU3P Trainer: P Hobb

Festival form

2011 Arkle: 1st Best odds: 33-1



MEDERMIT

Form: 2-1322

Trainer: A King

■ Festival form 2009 Supreme Hurd 2nd

2010 Champ Hurdle: 7t

2011 Arkle: 4th

Best odds: 33-1

DIAMOND HARRY

■ Form: P/I-45

Trainer: N William

Festival form

2009 Ballymore Hu 3rd

2010 RSA Chase PU

■ Best odds: 40-1

TIME FOR RUPER

Form: 5-2514

Trainer: P Webb ■ Festival form

2010 World Hurdle 2nd

2011 RSA Chase: 5th

■ Best odds: 50-1

CHINA ROCK

■ Form: 34P-45 Trainer: M Morri

Festival form

2009 Ballymore Huro 4th

2010 Jewson Chase: 4th

2011 Gold Cup: PU Best odds: 50-1

TIDAL BAY

Form: 6U-325

■ Trainer: P Nicholls

Festival form 2007 Ballymore Hurdle 2nd

2008 Arkle: Ist

2009 Ryanair Chase: 4th

Best odds: 50-1

2010 World Hurdle: 7th 2011 Gold Cup: 6th

Midnight's pleasing Mulholland

Cheltenham Gold Cup just over a week away. The 10-year-old, right, is already a five-time winner at the home of jumps racing and was a creditable fifth in the big race

NEIL MULHOLLAND reports Midnight Chase in top

last March. He showed he was a worthy eachway candidate for this season's renewal when landing the Argento Chase at the Prestbury Park track in January. With

Mulholland just has to keep his stable star on song for the blue riband on March 16. "His preparation

is going according to plan," said the Devon trainer. "He's fit and well and healthy. That's the main thing

"He's just how we want him and it's a case of keeping him that way now. "All the work is done. We

"Every day in the build-up to the race will be a nervous one, but we just have to make sure we get him there.

"It's great for a stable like ours to have a horse like him good enough to run in the Gold Cup."

Jonjo O'Neill saddles 2010 Welsh National winner Synchronised in the big contest, who was last seen romping to an eight-length victory in Leopardstown's Lexus Chase in December, and is a best price of 12-1 for the Blue Riband event.

"I'd have liked to have got another run into him in the Irish Hennessy, but he's been coming along really well," said O'Neill. "He'd like rain, but you can't say he's got anything better than a sporting chance."

Barry Geraghty will ride Burton Port for Nicky Henderson, a horse who hasn't finished outside the top two in his last 10 runs and who is the fourth favourite for the race at around 15-2.

"He should improve a lot," said Geraghty. "I think the track will suit him, although it will also suit Long Run a whole lot better.

"In the Gold Cup we'll know where we stand and know then if he's well handicapped for the National.

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Hampshire Cricket Spotlight

Tremlett upbeat at operation

ASHES winner Chris Tremlett is confident he will remain injury-free once he has completed his rehabilitation after a back oper-

The 30-year-old ex-Hampshire star, pictured, had to leave England's Test tour of the United Arab Emirates, where they lost 3-0 to Pakistan, on the eve of the second match in Abu Dhabi in January.

The Surrey seamer, pictured, who had missed three Tests in the second half of last summer and then successive one-day international series home and away against India because of the same back problem, returned to England colours only in time for the start of the UAE tour.

He underwent surgery on his return home, but today explained: "I don't think there will be a recurrence, if I can work hard and get my bowling in shape."



As for adding to his 11 Test and 15 ODI caps, already spread over almost seven years, Tremlett is first intent on proving himself again for Surrey.

"It's obviously a setback when you get an injury and are out for a period of time," he

"I'm going to have to work hard to get back in."

Survey launch a search

ORDNANCE Survey Cricket Club are looking for new play-

The Hampshire League Regional Division 2 South East side have aspirations to play at a higher level.

They also have a side in the

Southampton Evening League and an annual tour.

For more information, see club website http://www.oscc.info or contact captain Richard Curtis (richard.curtis2706@gmail.com)



Katich is all set to link up with the Royals later this month for his fourth stint with the county, but his first since 2005.

Hampshire's second Championship clash of 2012 is against Glamorgan at

Cardiff in April. This week the Welsh county signed all-rounder Henriques as cover for the injured Marcus North.

It will be Henriques' first stint in

overseas first-class cricket. The 25-year-old has a useful first-class record for New South Wales, having scored 1257 runs at 29.92 and

taken 47 wickets at 31.38. He also played two ODIs for Australia in India in 2009.

Moises is well known to Glamorgan's head of elite perfor-mance, Matthew Mott, who was previously head coach of New South



North, who had one match for Hampshire in 2009, was due to be Glamorgan's first overseas player of

He was always going to miss the first few weeks, because his wife is due to give birth in mid-April, but he is currently injured after injuring a finger last month.

Mott is hopeful North will be fit for

the start of May.

One man hoping to play against Hampshire is Simon Jones, the for-mer England Ashes-winning star having rejoined his first county last summer after two seasons at The Ageas Bowl.

Here, the Sports Pink looks at Hampshire's other Championship rivals and which overseas players they are aiming to use in 2012

DERBYSHIRE

New Zealand batsman Martin Guptill is back as Derbyshire's overseas player this year.

The 25-year-old will be available from the start of the campaign through to mid-June.

Guptill spent the second half of last season with the county, scoring 537 first-class runs in eight matches. He took over from Australian Test

batsman Usman Khawaja for the sec-ond half of last season's County Championship and CB40 campaigns, and was the county's leading run scorer in the FL t20.

In a reverse of last year's roles,

Khawaja will fly in on June 10 to take over from Guptill, who leaves England to join his country on their tour to the West Indies.

Though limited by injury last summer, Khawaja's 135 in his last Championship match at Kent saw him finish 2011 with a first-class average of 39.87 in four matches for

five CB40 games.

ESSEX

South African batsman Alviro Petersen has signed a two month deal with the county.

The 31-year-old, who captained Glamorgan last summer, will stay at Chelmsford until mid-June.

Petersen, who has played 10 Tests

country, came to Essex's attention when he scored a century against them last summer.

In all, Petersen scored 2,039 runs in all competitions for Glamorgan in 2011 and admitted he would have been open to a return to Cardiff.

However, suggestions he could rejoin the Welsh county as a Kolpak player had to be shelved after he won

Test team at the start of this year, after a year out of the international reckoning.

Australian fast bowler Peter Siddle will play for the county during the t20 tournament.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

The county have yet to sign an over-seas player for the start of the

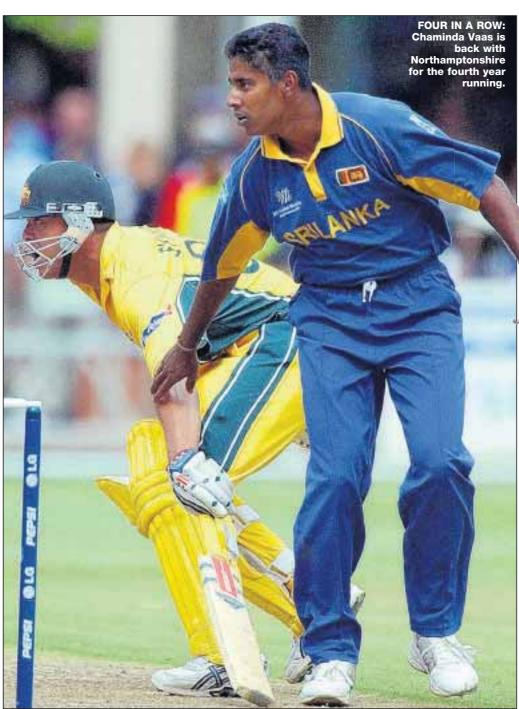


GOT A CRICKET STORY FOR US? EMAIL echosport@dailyecho.co.uk

SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 2012 THE DAILY ECHO

Hampshire Cricket Spotlight

WITH PAL FROM OZ



Championship season early next

month.

And money is in short supply after the county failed in its attempt to win planning permission for ambitious ground redevelopment plans.

With the future of international cricket in Bristol in doubt, Gloucestershire are having to further tighten their belts and recently withdrew their offer of a new contract to

long-serving batsman Chris Taylor in

the interests of making ends meet.
Gloucestershire have already secured the services of Sri Lankan spin legend Muttiah Muralitharan to play t20 cricket.

They are now planning to go down the overseas route to replace Jon Lewis, last season's leading wickettaker, who left to join Surrey in the

Like Gloucestershire, they have yet to sign an overseas player for the start of the new domestic season.

The county certainly need some fresh takent after losing top order batsmen Joe Denly and Martin van Jaarsveld since the end of last sum-

Denly has joined Middlesex while

from county cricket

In addition, all-rounder Azher Mahmood will miss the start of the season on Indian Premier League

LEICESTERSHIREWest Indies batsman Ramnaresh Sarwan will spend the whole season at Grace Road.

The Guyanese right-hander will play alongside ex-Hampshire man Abdul Razzaq in their t20 side.

The club had previously failed to reach an agreement with former Pakistani batsman Mohammad Pakistani batsman Mohammad Yousuf to take on the vacant overseas position.

The deal fell through because of Yousuf's reluctance to play during the month of Ramadan.

Sarwan last played for the West Indies in a Test match against India in July 2011, but was left out of their squads for the subsequent tour of Bangladesh due to iniury.

Sarwan's international record is impressive. He has scored almost 6,000 Test runs at an average of over 40, and has been even more prolific in ODIs – hitting over 5,500 runs at an average of over 43.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

Sri Lankan all-rounder Chaminda Vaas is back at the county for the

fourth year running.

The 38-year-old left-arm seamer claimed 70 Championship wickets last summer to win the county's player of the year award.

Vaas, who retired from Test cricket in 2009 with 355 wickets, had a short spell with Hampshire in 2003.

Northamptonshire have also signed the South-African spinner Con de Lange.

He qualifies as an English domestic player as he is a UK resident living in Scotland.

During his playing career in South Africa, the 31 year-old represented franchise sides the Cape Cobras, the Eagles and the Knights, as well as playing for provincial teams Boland, Western Province and Free State.

Northamptonshire have been looking for a left-arm spinner since losing Monty Panesar to Sussex at the end

YORKSHIRE

Australian opening batsman Phil Jaques is back for a third time. The 32-year-old, born in New South

Wales to English parents, has retired from first-class cricket in his homeland in order to join the Tykes on a UK passport.

Jaques, who played 11 Tests for Australia, has also had spells in county cricket with Worcestershire and Northants.

He previously played at Headingley as Yorkshire's overseas player in 2004 and 2005.

In his first year with the county, he struck 243 against Hampshire – the first double century ever recorded at The Ageas Bowl.

BOOK of the WI HI H

Chasing Sachin By Adam Carroll-Smith

Sportsbookofthemonth.com price: £6.79, saving 32% on rrp

Dismissed by some as being too frivolous or simply plain ridiculous, to others, sport's sense of the absurd is one of its greatest attractions.

Why, for example, design a rugby ball to bounce unpredictably?

Why, for that matter, climb mountains, run races or just get involved in any form of sporting pursuit that could be interpreted as completely absurd?

In truth, billions of followers actually enjoy identifying with sport's irrational nature because it adds to each game's sense of fun.

Now Adam Carroll-Smith has made his

mark in sport's register of the ridiculous with Chasing Sachin, the basis of which is an outrageous proposition to bowl at one

of the greatest batsmen.

Carroll-Smith is no natural cricketer, although his epiphany arrives in the summer of 1996 when playing football with his

The ball is lashed to a far-off field and away the author goes in hot pursuit, on his bike, only to miss the rope surrounding a nearby cricket square, causing him to crash, head-over-handlebars and receive an ear-wagging from a dishevelled groundsman.

Fate determines this to be on the same day as England draw 1-1 with Switzerland in Euro 96 and Sachin Tendulkar scores



122 against England's cricketers at Edgbaston.

A few weeks later,

our hero reveals to his mate. Rosh, that he would fancy taking up cricket, a con-versation overheard by Rosh's father, a cricketing fanatic who happens to have videoed Tendulkar's

Edgbaston innings

AC-S watches intently until the Indian superstar is dismissed.

"As he walked off, even the umpire, a portly, ruddy-faced man, acknowledged Tendulkar's brilliance with a nod of congratulations to him. I had never seen sport - or sportsmanship - like it. The tape ended. I was transfixed."

Bitten by cricket's bug, Carroll-Smith embraced the game as any youngster would, only to discover that he wasn't much good, although he was enthusiastic.

Several years later, a drunken Carroll-Smith advises Rosh that it is his intention to bowl at Tendulkar and so begins his unlikely quest to track down the great and bowl just one ball at him.

The story is not dissimilar to lan Stafford's Who do you think you are -Michael Schumacher? published in 2005.

Like Stafford, AC-S never loses sight of what he sets out to achieve. He may meander off along anecdotal footpaths, but always returns, undeterred, to recommence his pursuit.

It is, of course, quite absurd, but that's the whole point of a sports book which is meant to be fun.
In that respect, it succeeds.

Does Carroll-Smith? That would be

We've teamed up with Sports Book of the Month & have a copy of Chasing Sachin to give away.

To win this week's sports book, go to their website (www.sportsbookofthe month.com) and answer the following question: Against which country did Sachin Tendulkar score his first international century?



ECHO AND PINK - BEST FOR CRICKET 12 MONTHS OF THE YEAR

Scare are they now



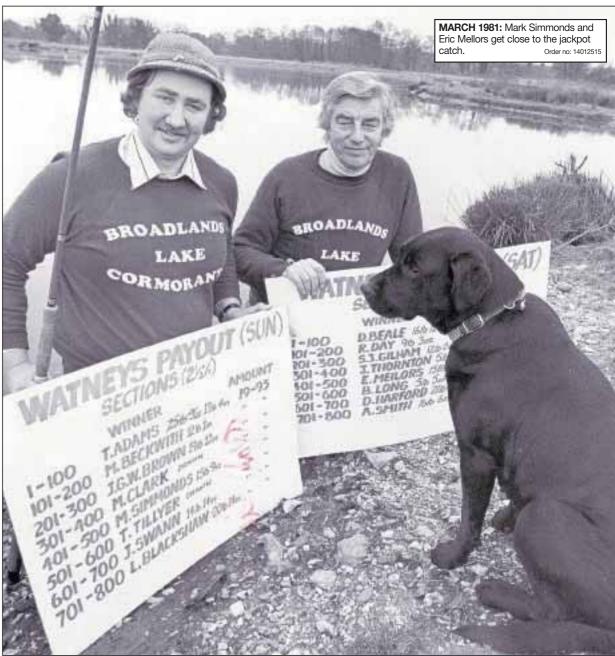


AUGUST 1980: Name unknown.

Order no: 14012463



SEPTEMBER 1980: John Hagens with a 17lb 2oz trout.





SEPTEMBER 1980: Names unknown

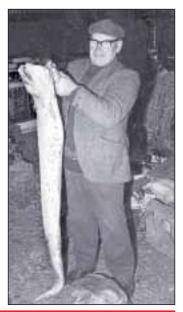


OCTOBER 1980: Bill Merryweather with a Order no: 14012472 51lb conger eel. Order no: 14012475



OCTOBER 1980: Barbara Macey shows off the 13lb 13oz ling she caught during the Wessex Division's weekend in Cornwall, left. Order no: 14012478

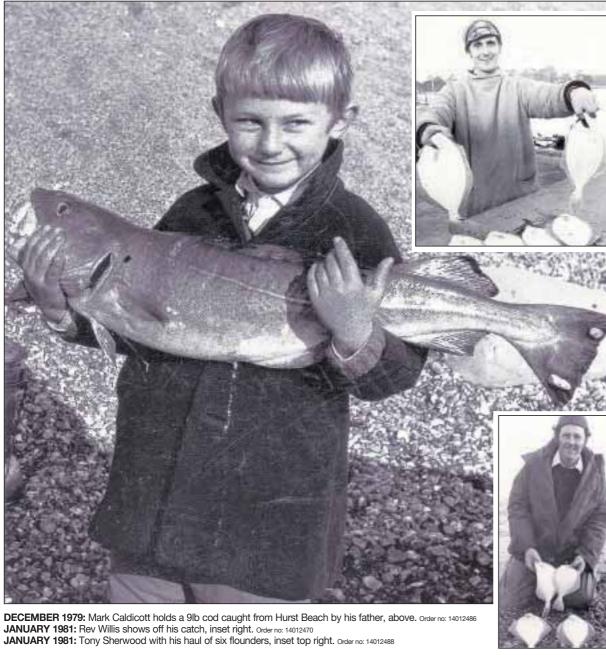




SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 2012 THE DAILY ECHO PINK 45

Scare are they now







FEBRUARY 1981: Frank Smith shows off his six trophies at the Sandown Lake Angling Society annual dinner.

Order no: 14012500



DECEMBER 1980: Reg Bulpitt shows off his catch.

Order no: 1401250

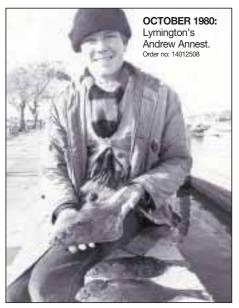


NOVEMBER 1980: North Baddesley's George Payne shows off a 35lb cod landed off the Isle of Wight, left. Order no: 14012491



FEBRUARY 1981: Rodney Saunders shows off his trophies.

Order no: 14012498



1980: Glenn Benson with his 15lb 8oz cod, right.

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Stevenage...... 2 Chesterfld .

Wycombe......0 Colchester.

.... 0 Scunthorpe

... 2 Leyton O

.... 0 Hartlepool.

......**0** Att 10,621

Att 19.416

Trotman 12
Bowery 22
Att 3,534

Att 6,824

Att 3,751

..... **0** Att 4,838

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B Davies 31	Murray 8		Oxford Utd 1
HT 1-2	Deeney 15 Att 23,130	Fagan 57 pen	Hall 72
	lpswich 2	Hanson 67	
Brady 17	Leadbitter 67 pen,70	HT 0-0	Att 10,059
Koren 54	•	Payne 48	Crewe 4 Powell 27.53
HT 1-0	Att 17,625	Whelpdale 67	Leitch-Smith 52
	Millwall 1 Henderson 64	Miller 73	Clayton 90
McCleary 25 Higginbotham 38	Henderson 64	HT 0-1	Att 5,428
Reid 80			Crawley2
HT 2-0	Att 19,413	Mukendi 85 Donnelly 90	Davis 37 McFadzean 47
	Blackpool1	HT 0-1	Att 1,802
Barnett 27 Taylor 43	Dicko 80	Morecambe0	Hereford 1
Boyd 86			Taylor 27
HT 2-0	Att 7,540	HT 0-1	Att 1,653
	Leicester 1	Langmead 19	Aldershot 1
Leigertwood 15	Danns 90	Akinfenwa 40,57 pen	Hyllon 90
Roberts 75 Church 89		HT 2-0	Att 5,071
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Lallana 36,54	-	HT 0-0	Att 5,522
HT 1-0	Att 24,862	Rotherham 1 Grabban 70 pen	Plymouth 0
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	3 30 16 6 5 7 14 20 58	Benson 35 HT 1-0	Att 10.659
	1 26 10 5 4 7 28 23 56		Bristol R 2
	3 27 16 6 6 7 32 33 56	Mansell 72	Harrold 45
	4 31 22 4 10 4 21 21 54	Howe 90	Zebroski 69
	5 21 15 6 5 5 13 13 54 7 25 26 6 6 6 27 23 50	HT 0-1	Att 3,920
	2 18 10 6 5 8 18 22 49		OME AWAY
	5 26 18 5 5 8 22 25 48	P W D	L F A W D L F A Pt
	6 27 20 8 0 9 21 24 48	Swindon 35 15 2 Shrewsbry 35 13 4	1 40 8 8 2 7 21 17 73 0 28 10 6 4 8 23 23 65
	6 27 28 4 7 7 15 26 47	Shrewsbry 35 13 4 Southend 36 8 6	4 25 17 11 1 6 36 25 64
	7 23 19 4 5 8 15 28 46	Cheltnham 36 10 4	4 23 11 9 3 6 32 25 64
.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	7 31 23 5 5 9 25 40 45	Torquay 35 10 6	3 32 21 8 3 5 17 17 63
	7 30 28 4 4 10 16 29 43		3 34 15 5 8 4 22 26 58
	7 34 29 3 6 9 20 28 41 7 19 23 4 4 10 20 27 37	Oxford Utd 35 8 7	
	7 19 23 4 4 10 20 27 37 11 18 30 5 2 9 15 24 35	Gillingham 35 10 4	4 36 23 6 2 9 27 29 54
	8 18 25 4 3 11 13 32 34	Crewe 36 7 4	6 28 25 8 3 8 24 27 52
	6 24 21 0 3 14 7 29 30	Rotherham 35 8 3	6 21 16 5 8 5 30 30 50
	5 13 17 3 2 13 18 38 30	Morecambe 36 6 4	9 29 25 6 7 4 23 18 47
	5 20 14 2 5 12 14 26 26	Acc Stanley 35 8 2	6 26 25 3 11 5 17 21 46
	0 points for entering admin-	Aldershot 34 8 3	6 18 13 6 1 10 18 27 46
istration		Port Vale 35 8 3 Burton Albion35 6 6	7 32 25 7 5 5 25 22 43 4 18 19 5 4 10 26 37 43
		Burton Albion35 6 6 Bristol R 35 6 5	4 18 19 5 4 10 26 37 43 7 21 25 5 4 8 22 31 42
	eague One	Wimbledon 35 5 4	9 26 36 6 4 7 21 27 41

Swindon		15	2	1	40	8	8	2			17	
Shrewsbry		13	4	0	28		6	4			23	
Southend	36	8	6	4	25	17	11	1	6	36	25	64
Cheltnham	36	10	4	4	23	11	9	3	6	32	25	64
Torquay	35	10	6	3	32	21	8	3	5	17	17	63
Crawley	33	11	2	3	34	15	5	8	4	22	26	58
Oxford Utd	35	_8	. 7.	_2	30	17	_ 6	_6	_6	19	18	55
Gillingham	35	10	4	4	36	23	6	2	9	27	29	54
Crewe	36	7	4	6	28	25	8	3	8	24	27	52
Rotherham	35	8	3	6	21	16	5	8			30	
Morecambe	36	6	4	9	29	25	6	7	4	23	18	47
Acc Stanley	35	8	2		26		3	11			21	
Aldershot	34	8	3	6	18	13	6	1	10	18	27	46
Port Vale	35	8	3	7	32	25	7	5	5	25	22	43
Burton Albior		6	6	4	18	19	5	4	10	26	37	43
Bristol R	35	6	5	7	21	25	5	4	8	22	31	42
Wimbledon	35	5	4		26		6	4			27	
Bradford	34	6	7		28		3	5			21	
Barnet	35	5	4	7	21	29	5	3			34	
Macclesfld	36	5	9		22		3	2	12	12	26	35
Hereford	36	4	3	11	17	34	4	8	6	22	24	35
Northmptn	34	5	4	10	26	38	4	3	8	20	28	34
Plymouth	36	3	7	7	17	22	4	4	11	21	34	32
Dagenham	35	6	1	10	21	31	3	3	12	13	32	31
*Port Vale de	educ	cted	10	ро	ints	for	ent	erir	ng a	adm	inis	-
tration												

Coattich	Yun Civth Dound
Scoursii	Cup Sixth Round

Ayr Utd 0	Hibernian2
•	O Donovan 6
	Griffiths 19 pen
HT 0-2	Att 5,991
Hearts 2	St Mirren 2
Beattie 37	Carey 27
Skacel 48	Zaliukas 84 og
HT 1-1	Att 8.859



ONE NIL: Chelsea's Didier Drogba celebrates with teammate Daniel Sturridge scoring the first goal against Stoke City at Stamford Bridge.

Clydesdale Bank Premier

Inverness Golobart 83 HT 0-1	СТ		. 1	K	ilm	arı	noc			bar		og
			Н	٥N	1E			Α	w	AΥ		
	Р	W	D	L	F	Α	W	D	L	F	Α	Pt
Celtic	30	13	1	1	30	6	11	2	2	32	11	75
Rangers	29	9	4	2	27	11	11	0	3	29	8	54
Motherwell	29	7	3	4	20	16	8	3	4	20	17	51
Dundee Utd	29	5	5	5	19	13	5	5	4	28	26	40
St Johnstn	28	5	1	8	18	23	6	6	2	18	10	40
Hearts	29	_8	0	_6	23	15	_ 3	6	_6	10	14	39
Kilmarnock	30	5	6	4	22	23	2	7	6	10	21	34
Aberdeen	29	5	7	3	18	12	2	5	7	11	20	33
St Mirren	29	4	5	5	14	15	2	8	5	12	22	31
Inverness C	Г29	4	4	6	15	21	3	3	9	18	29	28
Hibernian	29	1	6	8	12	26	4	2	8	18	29	23
Dunfrmline	30	0	6	9	16	39	4	1	10	14	27	19
*Rangers de	duc	ted	10	poi	nts	for	goir	ng i	nto	adı	min	is-
According to												

Scottish	Division One
Falkirk1	Partick
Hamilton 0	Ross Cnty
	Livingston
Queen Sth 1	Raith

			н	OME			Α	WAY	
	Ρ	W	D	L F	Α	W	D	LFA	P
Ross Cnty	26	8	5	0 27	9	7	5	1 19 12	5
Falkirk	27	7	6	0 19	9	4	5	5 21 21	4
Dundee	26	4	3	5 15	13	7	5	2 23 14	4
Partick	27	7	4	3 23	10	2	4	7 10 19	3
Livingston	27	5	5	4 25	21	4	3	6 15 20	3
Hamilton	27	4	2	7 18	22	5	4	5 16 16	3
Morton	26	4	3	6 19	21	4	4	5 9 20	3
Ayr_Utd	_26	_4	6	4 17	17	3	3	6 13 28	3
Raith	27	5	3	6 17	14	2	4	7 13 22	2
Queen Sth	27	5	4	4 16	16	1	4	9 13 24	2

Scottish Division Iwo								
Albion R	0	Airdrie Utd						
Arbroath	2	Dumbarton						
East Fife	0	Cowdenbth						
Forfar	4	Brechin						
Stophomuir								

0.0	•	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	9	•••	••••			
			н	OME		Α	WAY	
	Ρ	W	D	L F	Α	W	D	L F A Pt
Cowdenbth	28	11	2	0 29	6	6	6	3 27 16 59
Arbroath	28	10	5	0 42	17	5	5	3 24 21 55
Dumbarton	28	7	2	4 23	21	6	4	5 27 25 45
Stenhsmuir	28	_8_	2	4 28	15	_ 4	2	8 17 25 40
East Fife	28	6	3	5 23	23	4	2	8 17 24 35
Brechin	28	4	5	5 18	22	4	5	5 16 20 34
Airdrie Utd	28	5	4	5 32	29	3	5	6 19 28 33
Forfar	28	_4	5_	6 24	27	_3	4	6 23 31 30
Stirling A	28	4	4	6 20	22	3	2	9 17 34 27
Albion R	28	5	4	5 21	18	2	1	11 13 36 26

Scottish Division Three							
	E Stirling						
	Peterhead						
Montrose 1	Renwick						

			н	OME			Α	WA	۱Y		
	Ρ	W	D	L F	Α	W	D	L	F	Α	Ρt
Alloa	28	10	3	1 27	10	8	3	3	23	20	60
Stranraer	28	8	2	4 34	25	6	5	3	30	17	49
Queens Pk	27	7	4	2 30	12	7	2	5	21	21	48
Elgin	28	10	3	2 39	12	_ 3	4	6	14	29	46
Annan	28	7	4	4 26	20	4	3	6	17	22	40
Peterhead	28	5	4		18	5	1	9	19	30	35
Berwick	28	3	4	6 17	21	5	6	4	27	26	34
Clyde	27	4	3	7 20	18	2	5	6	9	15	26
Montrose	28	4	3	7 23	29	3	2	9	19	34	26
E Stirlina	28	4	3	7 20	25	1	2	11	11	41	20

FA Trophy Semi-final First Leg

Newport Co 3	Wealdstone	٠
HT 2-0		
YorkL	Luton	I
HT 1-0		

Blue Square Bet Premier

AFC Telford U	Southport 1
	Ledsham 50
-T 0-0	Att 2.025
Busintus Tour 0	
	Gateshead1
Assombalonga 5,55, Wrig	
⊣T 2-0	Att 650
Grimsby2	Forest Grn 1
Hearn 13, Townsend 90	Klukowski 18 pen
HT 1-1	Att 3.294
	Kettering 0
Nishart 84	
-T 0-0	Att 253
incoln City 0	Alfreton Town 1
	Moult 45
HT 0-1	Att 2.253
Stockport	Cambridge 1
	Tiryaki 14
⊣T 0-1	Att 5,957
Tamworth 0	Mansfield1
	Green 13
-IT 0-1	Att 1.600
	Barrow 0
D Wright 34	
Speight 52	
JT 1 0	V++ 3 130

			HOME					AWAY					
	Р	W	D	L	F	Α	W	Ď	Ľ	``F	Α	Pt	
Fleetwood	37	12	6	1	45	20	15	1	2	42	18	88	
Wrexham	36	15	2	2	40	11	11	3	3	25	10	83	
Luton	35	12	3	3	38	10	6	8	3	26	20	65	
Mansfield	36	10	5	3	37	23	7	8	3	22	17	64	
Southport	36	_7.	6	5	26	32	11	2	_5	29	25	62	
York	35	10	5	4	40	20	6	8	2	27	16	61	
Grimsby	35	11	3	4	46	22	6	4	7	22	27	58	
Kiddrmnstr	36	7	7	5	32	25	9	2	6	29	25	57	
Gateshead	36	7	7	4	32	26	9	2	7	26	28	57	
Barrow	37	11	5		33		5	2	11		37		
Braintree	37		4		34		5	4			39		
Forest Grn	36	7	5		25		6	8	4		15		
Cambridge	34	8	4		24		6	6			20		
Ebbsfleet	35	5	5		26		6	5			35		
Tamworth	36	7	4		24		4	5			33		
Stockport	38	5	6		24		2	8			37		
Alfreton	36	6	5		32		3	3			35		
Newport Co	35	5	4		18		3	6			33		
Lincoln City	36	5	6		21		3	3			31		
AFC Telford	35	_6	. 4.	. 7	15	18	_1.	_8	9	18	31	33	
Hayes & Y	36	5	3	9	22	32	3	3	13	24	43	30	
Darlington	35	7	4	6	16	14	3	4	11	19	36	28	
Kettering	36	4	4	10	21	37	3	3	12	13	41	25	
Bath City	36	3	4	11	20	31	1	5	12	12	39	21	
*Darlington o						S							
**Kettering deducted 3 points													

Grey panels indicate High-scoring games

POOLS CHECK

Local non-league results

BLUE SQUARE BET CONFERENCE

Basingstoke 1 Dover 1 Basingstoke 1 Dover 1
Boreham Wood 2 Dorchester 2
Bromley 0 Eastleigh 0
Chelmsford 1 Welling 2
Dartford 3 Farnborough 0
Eastbourne 0 Sutton 0
Hampton & Prmond 4 Truro 3
Havant & Waterlooville 3 Woking 4
Salisbury 1 Staines 0
Tonbridge Angels 1 Maidenhead 0
Weston-super-Mare 2 Thurrock 2
EVO-STIK SOUTHERN LEAGUE
Premier Division

EVO-STIK SOUTHERN I Premier Division Banbury 0 AFC Totton 1 Bashley 1 Brackley 1 Brackley 1 Brackley 2 Cambridge City 2 Learnington 2 Cirencester 0 Arlesey 3 Evesham 1 St Albans 1 Frome 1 Barwell 0 Hitchin 0 Swindon Supermarine 1 Oxford City 2 Checham 1 Oxford City 2 Chesham 0
Redditch 1 Chippenham 0
Weymouth 0 Hemel Hempstead

Division One South & West Abingdon Utd 0 Wimborne 1

Division One South & West
Abingdon Utd 0 Wimborne 1
Bishops Cleeve 0 Thatcham 0
Cinderford 0 Yate 0
Didcot 1 Clevedon 0
Gosport 2 Paulton Rovers 0
Mangotsfield 0 Sholing 0
North Leigh 1 Bickleford 2
Poole Town 0 Hungerford 1
Stourport Swiffs 2 Bridgwater 0
Tiverfor 4 Halesowen 2
SYDENHAMS WESSEX LEAGUE
Premier Division
Alresford 2 Newport IoW 0
Bemerton HH 1 Christchurch 3
Downton 2 Blackfield & Langley 1
Fareham 3 Romsey 1
Fawley 3 Alton 2
GE Hamble 4 Brading 0
Laverstock & Ford 1 Hamworthy 2
Lymington 1 Bournemouth Poppies 2
Moneyfields 1 Winchester City 2
Totton & Eling 1 Homdean 3
Division One

Moneyrields 1 Winchester City 2
Totton & Eling 1 Horndean 3
Division One
AFC Portchester 4 Amesbury 1
Brockenhurst 1 Fleet Spurs 1
Cowes Sports 2 Stockbridge 3
Pewsey Vale 4 Hythe & Dibden 0
Picture of 1 Venural 1 Venur

Pewsey Vale 4 Hythe & Dibden 0
Ringwood 1 Verwood 3
Tadley Calleva 0 East Cowes Vics 8
US Portsmouth 3 Petersfield 3
Whitchurch 1 Warminster 1
PUMA ENGINEERING HPL
Division One
AFC Aldermaston 0 Paulsgrove 1
Clanfield 2 Hedge End Rangers 3
Colden Common 3 Liss Athletic 1
Hamble Club 1 Liphook Utid 4
Coverno 2 Sporting BW 2
QK Southampton 3 Locks Heath 3
University of Portsmouth 3 Fleetlands 1
Winchester Castle 0 AFC Stoneham 1
Combination 2
Fleetlands 4 Winchester Castle 0

AFC Stonenam 5 (K Southampton 2 Fleetlands 4 Winchester Castle 0 Liphook 2 Colden Common 0 Liss Athletic 2 Clanfield 3 Locks Heath 3 Otterbourne 0 Paulisgrove 6 AFC Aldermaston 0 Sporting BW 3 Hamble Club 3 MAGNATA CARE HAMPSHIRE LEAGUE 2004 Andower Lions po Michelmersch & Timsbury

MAGNATA CARE HAMPSHIRE LEAGUE 200
Andover Lions pp Michelmersh & Timisbury
Crusaders O Durley 1
Infinity v Horndean Utd ald
Mottisfont 0 Broughton 3
HAMPSHIRE INTERMEDIATE CUP
Semi-final
Wimborne Town Res 0 AFC Portchester Res 4
WYVERN COMBINATION LEAGUE
Wyvern League Cup, quarter-final
Sholing 2 Gosport Borough 0
Premier Division
Christchurch 3 Bemerton HH 0
Fleet Town 1 Eastleigh 3
Newport loW 2 AFC Totton 2
Division One East
Alton Town 1 Fareham Town 0
Division One West

Division One West Division One West
East Cowes Vics pp Fawley
Hythe & Dibden 2 Brockenhurst 1
Romsey Town 8 Ringwood 3
Verwood pp Totton & Elling
DREW SMITH SOUTHAMPTON LEAGUE
Coaler Demoirs

Senior Premie BTC Soton 3 Cutbush Athletic 4 Bishopstoke WMC 1 Bush Hill 5

Nursling 5 London Airways 2 Southampton Uni 2 Comrades 3

Soutnampton Uni 2 Comrades 3
Senior 1
Burridge AFC 2 BTC Soton Res 1
Durley Res 0 Netley CS 9
Comrades Res 1 Thornhill HK 1
Hedge End Town 5 White Horse 3
Lyndhurst 6 Hythe Aztecs 1
Michelmersh & T Res 1 Cadnam Utd 16



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